United Nations

Resolutions
and
Decisions

adopted by the General Assembly during its fifty-sixth session

Volume I

Resolutions

12 September – 24 December 2001

General Assembly

Official Records • Fifty-sixth Session

Supplement No. 49 (A/56/49)

A/56/49 (Vol. I)

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United Nations • New York, 2002

NOTE

The resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly are identified as follows:

Regular sessions

Until the thirtieth regular session, the resolutions of the General Assembly were identified by an arabic numeral followed by a roman numeral in parentheses indicating the session (for example: resolution 3363 (XXX)). When several resolutions were adopted under the same number, each of them was identified by a capital letter placed between the two numerals (for example: resolution 3367 A (XXX), resolutions 3411 A and B (XXX), resolutions 3419 A to D (XXX)). The decisions were not numbered.

Since the thirty-first session, as part of the new system adopted for symbols of General Assembly documents, resolutions and decisions have been identified by an arabic numeral, indicating the session, followed by an oblique stroke and another arabic numeral (for example: resolution 31/1, decision 31/301). When several resolutions or decisions were adopted under the same number, each of them has been identified by a capital letter placed after the two numerals (for example: resolution 31/16 A, resolutions 31/6 A and B, decisions 31/406 A to E).

Special sessions

Until the seventh special session, the resolutions of the General Assembly were identified by an arabic numeral followed, in parentheses, by the letter "S" and a roman numeral indicating the session (for example: resolution 3362 (S-VII)). The decisions were not numbered.

Since the eighth special session, resolutions and decisions have been identified by the letter "S" and an arabic numeral indicating the session, followed by an oblique stroke and another arabic numeral (for example: resolution S-8/1, decision S-8/11).

Emergency special sessions

Until the fifth emergency special session, the resolutions of the General Assembly were identified by an arabic numeral followed, in parentheses, by the letters "ES" and a roman numeral indicating the session (for example: resolution 2252 (ES-V)). The decisions were not numbered.

Since the sixth emergency special session, resolutions and decisions have been identified by the letters "ES" and an arabic numeral indicating the session, followed by an oblique stroke and another arabic numeral (for example: resolution ES-6/1, decision ES-6/11).

In each of the series described above, the numbering follows the order of adoption.

* * *

The present volume contains the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly from 12 September to 24 December 2001, as well as the information requested by the General Assembly in section C, paragraph 3, of its resolution 54/248 of 23 December 1999. Decisions adopted by the Assembly during this period appear in volume II. Resolutions and decisions adopted subsequently during the fifty-sixth session will be published in volume III.

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Contents

Section *Page*

I. Resolutions adopted without reference to a Main Committee ... 1

II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee ... 111

III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) ... 165

IV. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Second Committee ... 213

V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee ... 273

VI. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Fifth Committee ... 409

VII. Resolutions adopted on the report of the Sixth Committee ... 477

Annexes

I. Allocation of agenda items ... 519

II. Checklist of resolutions ... 531

I. Resolutions adopted without reference to a Main Committee

Contents

Resolution No.	*Title*	*Page*
56/1.	Condemnation of terrorist attacks in the United States of America	4
56/2.	University for Peace	4
56/3.	United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations	5
56/4.	Observance of the International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict	5
56/5.	International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, 2001–2010	6
56/6.	Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations	7
56/7.	Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic	10
56/8.	United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage, 2002	12
56/9.	Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba	13
56/10.	Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and rehabilitation in Tajikistan	14
56/11.	Emergency assistance to Belize	15
56/12.	Oceans and the law of the sea	16
56/13.	Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks	23
56/31.	Jerusalem	26
56/32.	The Syrian Golan	27
56/33.	Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People	28
56/34.	Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat	29
56/35.	Special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat	30
56/36.	Peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine	31
56/37.	Causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa	32
56/38.	Recommendations on support for volunteering	34
56/39.	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Community of Central African States	38
56/40.	Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States	39
56/41.	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Pacific Islands Forum	41
56/42.	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons	42
56/43.	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe	42
56/44.	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization	43
56/45.	Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie	45

I. Resolutions adopted without reference to a Main Committee

Resolution No.	*Title*	*Page*
56/46.	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union	46
56/47.	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference	47
56/48.	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity	48
56/49.	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization	51
56/73.	Dissemination of information on decolonization	52
56/74.	Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples	53
56/75.	Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal	55
56/76.	Towards global partnerships	56
56/94.	Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency	58
56/95.	Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit	62
56/96.	Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies	62
56/97.	Return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin	64
56/98.	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System	66
56/99.	Emergency response to disasters	66
56/100.	Special assistance for the economic recovery and reconstruction of the Democratic Republic of the Congo	67
56/101.	Humanitarian assistance to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia	69
56/102.	Participation of volunteers, "White Helmets", in the activities of the United Nations in the field of humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and technical cooperation for development	70
56/103.	International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development	71
56/104.	Assistance for humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and development for East Timor	73
56/105.	International assistance to and cooperation with the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America	75
56/106.	Assistance for humanitarian relief and the economic and social rehabilitation of Somalia	77
56/107.	Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	79
56/108.	Economic assistance for the reconstruction and development of Djibouti	80
56/109.	Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster	81
56/110.	Economic assistance to the Eastern European States affected by the developments in the Balkans	82
56/111.	Assistance to the Palestinian people	84
56/112.	Emergency assistance to the Sudan	85
56/215.	The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina	87
56/216.	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe	89
56/217.	Safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel	92

I. Resolutions adopted without reference to a Main Committee

Resolution No.	*Title*	*Page*
56/218.	Final review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s	96
56/219.	Assistance in mine action	97
56/220.	Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan and the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security	100
	A. The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security	101
	B. Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan	102
56/221.	Credentials of representatives to the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly	104
56/222.	Special session of the General Assembly on children	104
56/223.	United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala	105
56/224.	The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development	106

RESOLUTION 56/1

Adopted at the 1st plenary meeting, on 12 September 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.1, submitted by the President of the General Assembly

56/1. Condemnation of terrorist attacks in the United States of America

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. *Strongly condemns* the heinous acts of terrorism, which have caused enormous loss of human life, destruction and damage in the cities of New York, host city of the United Nations, and Washington, D.C., and in Pennsylvania;

2. *Expresses its condolences and solidarity* with the people and Government of the United States of America in these sad and tragic circumstances;

3. *Urgently calls* for international cooperation to bring to justice the perpetrators, organizers and sponsors of the outrages of 11 September 2001;

4. *Also urgently calls* for international cooperation to prevent and eradicate acts of terrorism, and stresses that those responsible for aiding, supporting or harbouring the perpetrators, organizers and sponsors of such acts will be held accountable.

RESOLUTION 56/2

Adopted at the 29th plenary meeting, on 22 October 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.4 and Add.1, sponsored by: Andorra, Argentina, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Ecuador, Gabon, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, India, Ireland, Israel, Madagascar, Malawi, Monaco, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Senegal, Spain, Suriname, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Venezuela

56/2. University for Peace

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 54/29 of 18 November 1999, in which it recalled that, in its resolution 34/111 of 14 December 1979, it had approved the idea of establishing the University for Peace as a specialized international centre for postgraduate studies, research and the dissemination of knowledge specifically aimed at training and education for peace and its universal promotion within the United Nations system,

Recalling also that in its resolution 35/55 of 5 December 1980 it approved the establishment of the University for Peace in conformity with the International Agreement for the Establishment of the University for Peace,[1]

Recalling further its resolutions 45/8 of 24 October 1990, 46/11 of 24 October 1991 and 48/9 of 25 October 1993,

Recalling that in its resolution 46/11 it decided to include in the agenda of its forty-eighth session and biennially thereafter an item entitled "University for Peace",

Recalling also its resolution 50/41 of 8 December 1995, in which it decided to request the Secretary-General to consider ways of strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and the University for Peace and to submit a report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session,

Recalling further its adoption on 13 September 1999 of the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace,[2]

Noting that in 1991 the Secretary-General, with the assistance of the United Nations Development Programme, established a Trust Fund for Peace consisting of voluntary contributions in order to provide the University with the means necessary to extend its sphere of activity to the whole world, taking full advantage of its potential capacity for education, research and support of the United Nations and to carry out its mandate of promoting peace in the world,

Noting with appreciation that the Government of Uruguay, by agreement with the University for Peace, established in 1997 a World Centre for Research and Information on Peace as regional subheadquarters of the University for South America,

Noting also with appreciation the vigorous actions taken by the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and with the encouragement and support of the Government of Costa Rica, to revitalize the University,[3]

Noting that the University has placed special emphasis on the area of conflict prevention, peacekeeping, peace-building and peaceful settlement of disputes, and that it has launched programmes in the areas of democratic consensus-building and training of academic experts in the techniques of peaceful settlement of conflicts, which is highly relevant to the promotion of universal peace,

Noting also that the University has launched a broad programme for building a culture of peace in Central America and the Caribbean in the context of the efforts being made by the United Nations and by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for the development and promotion of a culture of peace,

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[1] See resolution 35/55, annex.

[2] Resolutions 53/243 A and B.

[3] See A/54/312, para. 2.

Noting with appreciation that the University organized a symposium in celebration of the International Year of Older Persons, 1999, at which it emphasized the valuable contribution that older persons can make to the promotion of peace, solidarity, tolerance and the culture of peace,

Recognizing the important and varied activities carried out by the University during the period 1999–2000, within its financial limitations and with the valuable assistance and contributions of Governments, foundations and non-governmental organizations,

Considering the importance of promoting education for peace that fosters respect for the values inherent in peace and universal coexistence among persons, including respect for the life, dignity and integrity of human beings, as well as friendship and solidarity among peoples irrespective of their nationality, race, sex, religion or culture,

Considering that, by its resolution 52/15 of 20 November 1997, the General Assembly proclaimed the year 2000 as the International Year for the Culture of Peace and that it should be ushered in with One Day in Peace, 1 January 2000,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 54/29 on ways of strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and the University for Peace;[4]

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider using the services of the University in his conflict-resolution and peace-building efforts and in the promotion of the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace;[2]

3. *Invites* Member States, intergovernmental bodies, non-governmental organizations and interested individuals to contribute directly to the Trust Fund for Peace or to the budget of the University;

4. *Invites* Member States to accede to the International Agreement for the Establishment of the University for Peace,[1] thereby demonstrating their support for an educational institution devoted to the promotion of a universal culture of peace;

5. *Invites* Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and all the peoples of the world to celebrate One Day in Peace, 1 January 2002, and every year thereafter;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "University for Peace".

RESOLUTION 56/3

Adopted at the 33rd plenary meeting, on 30 October 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.6, sponsored by the Islamic Republic of Iran

56/3. United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/23 of 13 November 2000, in which it decided to devote two days of plenary meetings at the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, on 3 and 4 December 2001, to the consideration of the item entitled "United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations",

Decides to convene the plenary meetings devoted to the item entitled "United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations" on 8 and 9 November 2001.

RESOLUTION 56/4

Adopted at the 37th plenary meeting, on 5 November 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.8 and Add.1, sponsored by: Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belize, Bhutan, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kuwait, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Zambia

56/4. Observance of the International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict

The General Assembly,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[5] which emphasized the necessity of safeguarding nature for the sake of future generations and working for the protection of our common environment,

Considering that damage to the environment in times of armed conflict impairs ecosystems and natural resources long beyond the period of conflict and often extends beyond the limits of national territories and the present generation,

Recalling Article 2, paragraph 4, of the Charter of the United Nations, which states that all Member States shall refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity of any State in their international relations,

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[4] A/56/314.

[5] See resolution 55/2.

1. *Declares* 6 November each year as the International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict;

2. *Invites* Member States, entities of the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations to observe 6 November each year as the International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the implementation of the present resolution and to promote it in the international community.

RESOLUTION 56/5

Adopted at the 37th plenary meeting, on 5 November 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.5 and Add.1, sponsored by: Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Gabon, Guyana, India, Jamaica, Madagascar, Malawi, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nigeria, Philippines, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Senegal, Suriname, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo

56/5. International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, 2001–2010

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the Charter of the United Nations, including the purposes and principles contained therein, and especially the dedication to saving succeeding generations from the scourge of war,

Recalling the Constitution of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which states that, since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed,

Recalling also its previous resolutions on a culture of peace, in particular resolution 52/15 of 20 November 1997 proclaiming 2000 as the International Year for the Culture of Peace, resolution 53/25 of 10 November 1998 proclaiming the period 2001–2010 as the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, and resolution 55/47 of 29 November 2000,

Reaffirming the Declaration[6] and Programme of Action[7] on a Culture of Peace, recognizing that they serve, inter alia, as the basis for the observance of the Decade, and convinced that effective and successful observance of the Decade throughout the world will promote a culture of peace and non-violence that benefits humanity, in particular future generations,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration[8] which calls for the active promotion of a culture of peace,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World,[9] including paragraph 28 thereof which indicates that each of the ten years of the Decade will be marked with a different priority theme related to the Programme of Action,

Taking note also of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2000/66 of 26 April 2000, entitled "Towards a culture of peace",[10]

Emphasizing the particular relevance of the special session of the General Assembly on children, to be held in New York during the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001, and the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995–2004, for the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, 2001–2010,

Taking into account the "Manifesto 2000" initiative of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization promoting a culture of peace, which has so far received over seventy-four million signatures of endorsement throughout the world,

1. *Reiterates* that the objective of the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World is to further strengthen the global movement for a culture of peace following the observance of the International Year for the Culture of Peace in 2000;

2. *Invites* Member States to place greater emphasis on and expand their activities promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, in particular during the Decade, at the national, regional and international levels and to ensure that peace and non-violence are fostered at all levels;

3. *Commends* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for recognizing the promotion of a culture of peace as the expression of its fundamental mandate, and requests it, as the lead agency for the Decade, to further strengthen the activities it has undertaken for promoting a culture of peace;

4. *Also commends* the relevant United Nations bodies, in particular the United Nations Children's Fund and the University for Peace, for their activities in further promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, including promotion of

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[6] Resolution 53/243 A.

[7] Resolution 53/243 B.

[8] See resolution 55/2.

[9] A/56/349.

[10] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

peace education and activities related to specific areas identified in the Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace;[7]

5. *Requests* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to continue its efforts to disseminate in various languages, inter alia, through its national commissions, the Declaration on a Culture of Peace[6] and the Programme of Action and related materials, in particular throughout the Decade;

6. *Calls upon* the relevant United Nations bodies, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund, to continue to promote both formal and non-formal education at all levels that foster a culture of peace and non-violence;

7. *Encourages* civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to continue and strengthen its efforts in furtherance of the objectives of the Decade, inter alia, by adopting its own programme of activities to complement the initiatives of Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and other global and regional organizations;

8. *Also encourages* the involvement of the mass media in education for a culture of peace and non-violence, with particular regard to children and young people, including through the planned expansion of the Culture of Peace News Network as a global network of Internet sites in many languages;

9. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to continue the communication and networking arrangements established during the International Year for providing an instant update of developments related to the observance of the Decade;

10. *Invites* Member States as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to provide information to the Secretary-General on the observance of the Decade and the activities undertaken to promote a culture of peace and non-violence;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Culture of peace".

RESOLUTION 56/6

Adopted at the 43rd plenary meeting, on 9 November 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.3 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen

56/6. Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/22 of 4 November 1998, 54/113 of 10 December 1999 and 55/23 of 13 November 2000 entitled "United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations",

Reaffirming the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, which are, inter alia, to develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, to take other appropriate measures to strengthen universal peace, and to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character, and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Underlining the fact that all Members have undertaken to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations,

Reaffirming their commitment to the fulfilment of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[11] as a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations and as a source of inspiration for the further promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms – political, social, economic, civil and cultural – including the right to development,

Underlining the fact that all civilizations celebrate the unity and diversity of humankind and are enriched and have evolved through dialogue with other civilizations and that, despite obstacles of intolerance and aggression, there has been constructive interaction throughout history among various civilizations,

Emphasizing that a common humanity unites all civilizations and allows for the celebration of the variegated splendour of the highest attainments of this civilizational diversity, and reaffirming that the civilizational achievements constitute the collective heritage of humankind,

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[11] Resolution 217 A (III).

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration of 8 September 2000,[12] which considers, inter alia, that tolerance is one of the fundamental values essential to international relations in the twenty-first century and should include the active promotion of a culture of peace and dialogue among civilizations, with human beings respecting one another, in all their diversity of belief, culture and language, neither fearing nor repressing differences within and between societies but cherishing them as a precious asset of humanity,

Noting that globalization brings greater interrelatedness among people and increased interaction among cultures and civilizations, and encouraged by the fact that the celebration of the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations, at the beginning of the twenty-first century, has underscored that globalization is not only an economic, financial and technological process which could offer great benefit but that it also presents the challenge of preserving and celebrating the rich intellectual and cultural diversity of humankind and of civilization,

Bearing in mind the valuable contribution that dialogue among civilizations can make to an improved awareness and understanding of the common values shared by all humankind,

Recognizing that human rights and fundamental freedoms derive from the dignity and worth inherent in the human person and are thus universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, and that the human person is the central subject of human rights and fundamental freedoms and, consequently, should be the principal beneficiary and should participate actively in the realization of these rights and freedoms,

Reaffirming that all peoples have the right of self-determination, by virtue of which they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development,

Emphasizing that promotion and protection of freedom of opinion and expression and a collective commitment to listen to and learn from each other and to respect cultural heritage and diversity are essential for dialogue, progress and human advancement,

Underlining the fact that tolerance and respect for diversity and universal promotion and protection of human rights are mutually supportive, and recognizing that tolerance and respect for diversity effectively promote and are supported by, inter alia, the empowerment of women,

Recalling its resolution 55/254 of 31 May 2001, which calls upon all States to exert their utmost efforts to ensure that religious sites are fully respected and protected,

Emphasizing the need to acknowledge and respect the richness of all civilizations and to seek common ground among civilizations in order to address comprehensively common challenges facing humanity,

Welcoming the endeavours of Governments, international organizations, civil society organizations and countless individuals to enhance understanding through constructive dialogue among civilizations,

Welcoming also the efforts of the Personal Representative of the Secretary-General for the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations and of the Group of Eminent Persons established by the Secretary-General,

Expressing its firm determination to facilitate and promote dialogue among civilizations,

Proclaims the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations:

A. Objectives, principles and participants

Article 1

Dialogue among civilizations is a process between and within civilizations, founded on inclusion, and a collective desire to learn, uncover and examine assumptions, unfold shared meaning and core values and integrate multiple perspectives through dialogue.

Article 2

Dialogue among civilizations constitutes a process to attain, inter alia, the following objectives:

- Promotion of inclusion, equity, equality, justice and tolerance in human interactions;
- Enhancement of mutual understanding and respect through interaction among civilizations;
- Mutual enrichment and advancement of knowledge and appreciation of the richness and wisdom found in all civilizations;
- Identification and promotion of common ground among civilizations in order to address common challenges threatening shared values, universal human rights and achievements of human society in various fields;
- Promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms and enrichment of common understanding of human rights;
- Development of a better understanding of common ethical standards and universal human values;
- Enhancement of respect for cultural diversity and cultural heritage.

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[12] See resolution 55/2.

Article 3

Pursuit of the above-mentioned objectives will be enhanced by collective commitment to the following principles:

- Faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small;
- Fulfilment in good faith of the obligations under the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;[11]
- Respect for fundamental principles of justice and international law;
- Recognition of diversified sources of knowledge and cultural diversity as fundamental features of human society and as indispensable and cherished assets for the advancement and material and spiritual welfare of humanity at large;
- Recognition of the right of members of all civilizations to preserve and develop their cultural heritage within their own societies;
- Commitment to inclusion, cooperation and the search for understanding as the mechanisms for the promotion of common values;
- Enhancement of participation by all individuals, peoples and nations in local, national and international decision-making processes.

Article 4

Dialogue among civilizations provides important contributions to progress in the following areas:

- Promotion of confidence-building at local, national, regional and international levels;
- Enhancing mutual understanding and knowledge among different social groups, cultures and civilizations in various areas, including culture, religion, education, information, science and technology;
- Addressing threats to peace and security;
- Promotion and protection of human rights;
- Elaboration of common ethical standards.

Article 5

Participation in dialogue among civilizations shall be global in scope and shall be open to all, including:

- People from all civilizations;
- Scholars, thinkers, intellectuals, writers, scientists, people of arts, culture and media and the youth, who play an instrumental role in initiation and sustainment of dialogue among civilizations;
- Individuals from civil society and representatives of non-governmental organizations, as instrumental partners in promoting dialogue among civilizations.

Article 6

Governments shall promote, encourage and facilitate dialogue among civilizations.

Article 7

Regional and international organizations should take appropriate steps and initiatives to promote, facilitate and sustain dialogue among civilizations.

Article 8

The media has an indispensable and instrumental role in the promotion of dialogue among civilizations and in the fostering of greater understanding among various civilizations and cultures.

Article 9

The United Nations should continue to promote and strengthen the culture of dialogue among civilizations.

B. Programme of Action

1. States, the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, are invited to consider the following as a means of promoting dialogue among civilizations in all domains, within existing resources and also drawing upon voluntary contributions:

- Facilitating and encouraging interaction and exchange among all individuals, inter alia, intellectuals, thinkers and artists of various societies and civilizations;
- Promoting of mutual visits and meetings of experts in various fields from different civilizations, cultures and backgrounds, which provide an opportunity for discovering commonalities among various civilizations and cultures;
- Exchange of visits among representatives of the arts and culture and the organization of cultural festivals through which people will have a chance of getting acquainted with other cultures;
- Sponsorship of conferences, symposiums and workshops to enhance mutual understanding, tolerance and dialogue among civilizations;
- Planning sports competitions, Olympiads and scientific competitions, with a view to encouraging

positive interaction among youth from different backgrounds and cultures;

- Reinvigorating and encouraging translation and dissemination of basic manuscripts and books and studies representing different cultures and civilizations;
- Promotion of historical and cultural tourism;
- Incorporation of programmes to study various cultures and civilizations in educational curriculums, including the teaching of languages, history and socio-political thoughts of various civilizations, as well as the exchange of knowledge, information and scholarship among academia;
- Advancement of research and scholarship to achieve an objective understanding of the characteristics of each civilization and the differences, as well as ways and means to enhance constructive interaction and understanding among them;
- Utilization of communication technologies, including audio, video, printed press, multimedia and the Internet, to disseminate the message of dialogue and understanding throughout the globe and depict and publicize historical instances of constructive interaction among different civilizations;
- Provision of equitable opportunities for participation in the dissemination of information, with a view to achieving an objective understanding of all civilizations and enhancing constructive interaction and cooperative engagement among civilizations;
- Implementation of programmes to enhance the spirit of dialogue, understanding and rejection of intolerance, violence and racism among people, particularly the youth;
- Utilizing the existence of migrants in various societies in bridging the gap of understanding between cultures;
- Consultation to articulate effective mechanisms to protect the rights of all people to maintain their cultural identity, while facilitating their integration into their social environment.

2. States should encourage and support initiatives taken by civil society and non-governmental organizations for the promotion of dialogue among civilizations.

3. States, international and regional organizations and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, are invited to develop appropriate ways and means at the local, national, regional and international levels to further promote dialogue and mutual understanding among civilizations, and to report their activities to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

4. Governments, funding institutions, civil society organizations and the private sector are invited to mobilize the necessary resources to promote dialogue among civilizations, including by contributing to the Trust Fund established by the Secretary-General in 1999 for that purpose.

5. The United Nations system, including, in particular, the Personal Representative of the Secretary-General for the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, are invited to continue to encourage and facilitate dialogue among civilizations and formulate ways and means to promote dialogue among civilizations in the activities of the United Nations in various fields.

6. The Secretary-General is requested to report to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session on the implementation of this Global Agenda and Programme of Action.

RESOLUTION 56/7

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 November 2001, by a recorded vote of 93 to none, with 1 abstention,* on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.12 and Add.1, as orally revised, sponsored by: Angola, Argentina, Brazil, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Togo, Uruguay

* *In favour:* Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: None

Abstaining: United States of America

56/7. Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 41/11 of 27 October 1986, in which it solemnly declared the Atlantic Ocean, in the region between Africa and South America, a zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic,

Recalling also its subsequent resolutions on the matter, including resolution 45/36 of 27 November 1990, in which it reaffirmed the determination of the States of the zone to enhance and accelerate their cooperation in the political, economic, scientific, cultural and other spheres,

Reaffirming the importance of the purposes and objectives of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic as a basis for the promotion of cooperation among the countries of the region,

Reaffirming also that the questions of peace and security and those of development are interrelated and inseparable and that cooperation for peace and development among States of the region will promote the objectives of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic,

Recalling the agreement reached at the third meeting of the States members of the zone, held in Brasilia in 1994, to encourage democracy and political pluralism and, in accordance with the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[13] to promote and defend all human rights and fundamental freedoms and to cooperate towards the achievement of these goals,

Aware of the importance that the States of the zone attach to the protection of the environment of the region, and recognizing the threat that pollution from any source poses to the marine and coastal environment, its ecological balance and its resources,

Welcoming the adoption of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects at the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in New York from 9 to 20 July 2001,[14]

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General, submitted in accordance with General Assembly resolution 55/49 of 29 November 2000,[15]

1. *Calls upon* all States to cooperate in the promotion of the objectives established in the declaration of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic and to refrain from any action inconsistent with those objectives and with the Charter of the United Nations and relevant resolutions of the Organization, in particular actions that may create or aggravate situations of tension and potential conflict in the region;

2. *Welcomes* the progress towards the full entry into force of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)[16] and of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba);[17]

3. *Encourages* all States, in particular the members of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic, to cooperate in promoting and strengthening global, regional, subregional and national initiatives to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons;

4. *Welcomes* in this regard the entry into force of the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials, adopted in November 1997,[18] and the adoption of the Inter-American Convention on Transparency in Conventional Weapons Acquisitions by the Organization of American States in June 1999;[19]

5. *Also welcomes* the Bamako Declaration on an African Common Position on the Illicit Proliferation, Circulation and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons, adopted by the Ministers of the States members of the Organization of African Unity on 1 December 2000,[20] the Declaration concerning Firearms, Ammunition and Other Related Materials in the Southern African Development Community, adopted by the Heads of State or Government of the States members of the Community at Windhoek on 9 March 2001,[21] as well as the Protocol on the Control of Firearms, Ammunition and Other Related Materials in the Southern African Development Community Region, adopted by the Heads of State and Government of the States members of the Community at Blantyre, Malawi, in August 2001, and the initiatives taken by States members of the Economic Community of West African States to further extend their agreement on a moratorium on the import, export and manufacture of light weapons;

6. *Reaffirms* the importance for Member States to contribute by all means at their disposal to an effective and lasting peace in Angola, and in that context reiterates that the primary cause of the present situation in Angola is the failure of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, under the leadership of Jonas Savimbi, to comply with its obligations under the Peace Accords,[22] the Lusaka Protocol[23] and relevant Security Council resolutions;

7. *Affirms* the importance of the South Atlantic to global maritime and commercial transactions and its determination to preserve the region for all peaceful purposes and activities protected by international law, in particular the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;[24]

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[13] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[14] See A/CONF.192/15, para. 24.

[15] A/56/454 and Add.1.

[16] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

[17] See A/50/426, annex.

[18] A/53/78, annex.

[19] CD/1591.

[20] A/CONF.192/PC/23, annex.

[21] A/CONF.192/PC/35, annex.

[22] See S/22609.

[23] See S/1994/1441.

[24] See *The Law of the Sea: Official Texts of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 and of the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 with Index and Excerpts from the Final Act of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.V.10).

8. *Calls upon* Member States to continue their efforts towards the achievement of appropriate regulation of maritime transport of radioactive and toxic wastes, taking into account the interests of coastal States and in accordance with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the regulations of the International Maritime Organization and the International Atomic Energy Agency;

9. *Views with concern* the increase in drug trafficking and related crimes, including drug abuse, and calls upon the international community and the States members of the zone to promote regional and international cooperation to combat all aspects of the problem of drugs and related offences;

10. *Recognizes*, in the light of the number, magnitude and complexity of natural disasters and other emergencies, the need to continue to strengthen the coordination of humanitarian assistance by States members of the zone, so as to ensure a timely and effective response;

11. *Welcomes* the offer by Benin to host the sixth meeting of the States members of the zone;

12. *Requests* the relevant organizations, organs and bodies of the United Nations system to render all appropriate assistance that States members of the zone may seek in their joint efforts to implement the declaration of the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the implementation of resolution 41/11 and subsequent resolutions on the matter under review and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, taking into account, inter alia, the views expressed by Member States;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic".

RESOLUTION 56/8

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 21 November 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.13 and Add.1, sponsored by: Argentina, Austria, Belarus, Cambodia, Canada, China, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Greece, Guatemala, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Madagascar, Monaco, Morocco, Nepal, New Zealand, Norway, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Spain, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Ukraine, United States of America, Uruguay

56/8. United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage, 2002

The General Assembly,

Recalling the international conventions dealing with the protection of cultural and natural heritage, including the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict adopted at The Hague in 1954[25] and the two Protocols thereto, the 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property,[26] and the 1972 Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage,[27] and recalling also the 1989 Recommendation on the Safeguarding of Traditional Culture and Folklore,[28]

Welcoming the ratification of the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage by one hundred and sixty-seven States parties, and noting the inscription of more than six hundred and ninety sites on the World Heritage List,

Mindful of the importance of protecting the world cultural tangible and intangible heritage as a common ground for the promotion of mutual understanding and enrichment among cultures and civilizations,

Noting the work already undertaken to protect the world cultural and natural heritage by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, including international campaigns,

Welcoming the decisions adopted at the twenty-ninth and thirty-first sessions of the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the one hundred and sixty-first session of the Executive Board of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization envisaging and calling for the proclamation of a United Nations year for cultural heritage,

Taking into consideration the thirtieth anniversary of the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage in 2002,

1. *Proclaims* 2002 as the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage;

2. *Invites* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to serve as the lead agency for the year;

3. *Also invites* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in collaboration with States, observers, relevant United Nations bodies, within their respective mandates, other international organizations and relevant non-governmental organizations, to intensify the implementation of programmes, activities and projects aimed at the promotion and protection of the world cultural heritage;

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[25] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 249, No. 3511.

[26] Ibid., vol. 823, No. 11806.

[27] Ibid., vol. 1037, No. 15511.

[28] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Twenty-fifth Session, Paris, 17 October–16 November 1989*, vol. 1: *Resolutions*, annex IB.

4. *Invites* Member States and observers to promote education and raise public awareness to foster respect for the national and world cultural heritage;

5. *Calls upon* Member States, observers, national and international organizations, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to make voluntary contributions to finance and support activities aimed at the promotion and protection of the national and world cultural heritage, including relevant activities of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

6. *Decides* to devote one day of plenary meetings at the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly, on 4 December 2002, to mark the end of the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage, and encourages Member States and observers to be represented in those meetings at the highest level possible;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the activities carried out during the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session an item entitled "United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage".

RESOLUTION 56/9

Adopted at the 64th plenary meeting, on 27 November 2001, by a recorded vote of 167 to 3, with 3 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.9, sponsored by Cuba

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, United States of America

Abstaining: Latvia, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nicaragua

56/9. Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba

The General Assembly,

Determined to encourage strict compliance with the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming, among other principles, the sovereign equality of States, non-intervention and non-interference in their internal affairs and freedom of international trade and navigation, which are also enshrined in many international legal instruments,

Recalling the statements of the heads of State or Government at the Ibero-American Summits concerning the need to eliminate the unilateral application of economic and trade measures by one State against another that affect the free flow of international trade,

Concerned at the continued promulgation and application by Member States of laws and regulations, such as that promulgated on 12 March 1996 known as the "Helms-Burton Act", the extraterritorial effects of which affect the sovereignty of other States, the legitimate interests of entities or persons under their jurisdiction and the freedom of trade and navigation,

Taking note of declarations and resolutions of different intergovernmental forums, bodies and Governments that express the rejection by the international community and public opinion of the promulgation and application of regulations of the kind referred to above,

Recalling its resolutions 47/19 of 24 November 1992, 48/16 of 3 November 1993, 49/9 of 26 October 1994, 50/10 of 2 November 1995, 51/17 of 12 November 1996, 52/10 of 5 November 1997, 53/4 of 14 October 1998, 54/21 of 9 November 1999 and 55/20 of 9 November 2000,

Concerned that, since the adoption of its resolutions 47/19, 48/16, 49/9, 50/10, 51/17, 52/10, 53/4, 54/21 and 55/20, further measures of that nature aimed at strengthening and extending the economic, commercial and financial embargo against Cuba continue to be promulgated and applied, and concerned also at the adverse effects of such measures on the Cuban people and on Cuban nationals living in other countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 55/20;[29]

2. *Reiterates its call upon* all States to refrain from promulgating and applying laws and measures of the kind referred to in the preamble to the present resolution in conformity with their obligations under the Charter of the

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[29] A/56/276 and Add.1.

United Nations and international law, which, inter alia, reaffirm the freedom of trade and navigation;

3. *Once again urges* States that have and continue to apply such laws and measures to take the necessary steps to repeal or invalidate them as soon as possible in accordance with their legal regime;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the appropriate organs and agencies of the United Nations system, to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution in the light of the purposes and principles of the Charter and international law and to submit it to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba".

RESOLUTION 56/10

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 27 November 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.15 and Add.1, sponsored by: Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Cambodia, Canada, China, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, El Salvador, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uzbekistan

56/10. Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and rehabilitation in Tajikistan

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/30 J of 25 April 1997, 52/169 I of 16 December 1997, 53/1 K of 7 December 1998, 54/96 A of 8 December 1999 and 55/45 of 27 November 2000,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[30]

Welcoming the progress made by Tajikistan in consolidating peace and stability, and noting the significantly improved security environment in the country,

Recognizing with satisfaction that the United Nations has played a successful and important role in the peace process, and believing that the Organization should continue to provide assistance to Tajikistan in post-conflict peace-building,

Welcoming in this regard the efforts of the United Nations Tajikistan Office for Peace-building aimed at the consolidation of peace, national recovery and reconstruction, promotion of the rule of law and the strengthening of democratic institutions,

Noting with regret that the humanitarian situation has not improved, owing to the severe economic deterioration and the prevailing drought, and that significant humanitarian needs continue to exist throughout Tajikistan,

Recognizing that, until the economy is able to support the Tajik population, humanitarian operations will remain a critical factor in consolidating the achievements of the peace-building process in Tajikistan,

Expressing regret that, despite the widely recognized importance of humanitarian assistance in maintaining and consolidating the achievements of the peace-building efforts, the donor response to the 2001 consolidated inter-agency appeal has not yet reached its target,

Stressing that international funding for humanitarian operations is particularly important since such operations remain the principal means by which hundreds of thousands of Tajiks meet their basic needs,

Noting with concern the lack of support especially for important sectors such as health, education, water and sanitation, which must receive immediate funding if social catastrophe is to be avoided in Tajikistan,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[30]

2. *Welcomes* the continued role of the United Nations in post-conflict peace-building in Tajikistan and the efforts of the United Nations Tajikistan Office for Peace-building in this regard;

3. *Stresses* that Tajikistan has entered a new phase of post-conflict peace-building, which requires continued international economic assistance;

4. *Recognizes* that humanitarian and rehabilitation assistance remains crucial, not only to sustain life but also to promote development and prevent renewed conflict;

5. *Welcomes with appreciation* the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General in drawing the attention of the international community to the acute humanitarian problems of Tajikistan and in mobilizing assistance for the post-conflict rehabilitation, recovery and reconstruction of the country;

6. *Welcomes* the results achieved at the consultative group meeting of donor countries, held in Tokyo on 16 May 2001;

7. *Expresses its appreciation* to the States, the United Nations, the European Union, the World Bank and other intergovernmental organizations and all relevant humanitarian organizations, agencies and non-governmental organizations, including the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, that have responded and continue to respond positively to the humanitarian needs of Tajikistan;

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[30] A/56/470.

8. *Encourages* Member States and others concerned to continue to provide assistance to alleviate the urgent humanitarian needs of Tajikistan and to offer support to Tajikistan for the post-conflict rehabilitation and reconstruction of its economy;

9. *Emphasizes* the importance of further cooperation and assistance from the authorities in facilitating the work of humanitarian organizations, including non-governmental organizations, welcomes in this regard the establishment of the National Coordination Committee on Humanitarian Assistance by the Government of Tajikistan, and urges the authorities to simplify and streamline without delay the relevant internal bureaucratic procedures and requirements for the delivery of humanitarian assistance;

10. *Warmly welcomes* the intention of the Secretary-General to continue the United Nations humanitarian programme in Tajikistan by issuing a consolidated inter-agency appeal for humanitarian assistance to Tajikistan for 2002, taking into account current developments in the region, and urges Member States to fund fully programmes included in the appeal;

11. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to continue to re-evaluate all United Nations humanitarian assistance activities in Tajikistan with a view to preparing a common humanitarian strategy that would support the relief and recovery operations during the transitional period from relief to development, with a major focus on promoting self-reliance and sustainable development;

12. *Stresses* the need to ensure the security and freedom of movement of humanitarian personnel, and of United Nations and associated personnel, as well as the safety and security of their premises, equipment and supplies;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to monitor the humanitarian situation in Tajikistan and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

14. *Decides* to consider at its fifty-seventh session the question of the situation in Tajikistan under the item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance".

RESOLUTION 56/11

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 27 November 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.16 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Brazil, Cambodia, Canada, Croatia, Cuba, Denmark, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Mexico, Nauru, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Portugal, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Seychelles, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tuvalu, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

56/11. Emergency assistance to Belize

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 42/169 of 11 December 1987, 43/202 of 20 December 1988, 44/236 of 22 December 1989, 45/185 of 21 December 1990, 46/149 of 18 December 1991, 46/182 of 19 December 1991, 48/188 of 21 December 1993, 49/22 A of 2 December 1994 and 55/165 of 14 December 2000,

Having been made aware of the extensive damage caused by powerful hurricane Iris during its landfall and passage through Belize on 8 October 2001,

Mindful of the human suffering caused by the displacement of thousands of people and the disrupted delivery of health and social services,

Aware of the devastation to the infrastructure of southern Belize and to the agricultural, fisheries and tourism sectors of Belize,

Conscious of the negative ecological impact of the hurricane on the coastal region and the inland rainforest,

Noting the enormous efforts required to alleviate the devastation caused by this natural disaster,

Cognizant of the efforts of the Government and people of Belize to relieve the suffering of the victims of hurricane Iris,

Conscious of the rapid response being made by the Government of Belize, the agencies and bodies of the United Nations system, international and regional agencies, non-governmental organizations and private individuals to provide relief,

Recalling the International Strategy For Disaster Reduction, and in this regard underlining the importance of efforts aimed at strengthening early warning, prevention and preparedness mechanisms for natural disasters and measures to strengthen capacity-building at the local, national and regional levels, with an emphasis on risk reduction,

Aware that the extent of the disaster and its medium-term and long-term effects will require, as a complement to the efforts being made by the Government and people of Belize, a demonstration of international solidarity and humanitarian concern to ensure broad multilateral cooperation in order to facilitate the transition from the immediate emergency situation in the affected areas to the process of reconstruction,

1. *Expresses its solidarity and support* to the Government and people of Belize;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to all States of the international community, international agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations that are providing emergency relief assistance to Belize;

3. *Urges* Member States, as a matter of urgency, to contribute generously to the relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts of Belize;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the international financial institutions, agencies and bodies of the United Nations system, to assist the Government of Belize in identifying medium-term and long-term needs and in mobilizing resources, as well as to help with the efforts towards rehabilitation and reconstruction of the affected areas in Belize;

5. *Encourages* the Government of Belize, in conjunction with relevant partners, further to develop strategies aimed at preventing and mitigating natural disasters, in accordance with the International Strategy For Disaster Reduction;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make all necessary arrangements to continue mobilizing and coordinating humanitarian assistance from the specialized agencies and other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system with a view to supporting the efforts of the Government of Belize.

RESOLUTION 56/12

Adopted at the 67th plenary meeting, on 28 November 2001, by a recorded vote of 121 to 1, with 4 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.17 and Add.1, sponsored by: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Brazil, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Kenya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay

• *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Comoros, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: Turkey

Abstaining: Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela

56/12. Oceans and the law of the sea

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/28 of 6 December 1994, 52/26 of 26 November 1997, 54/33 of 24 November 1999, 55/7 of 30 October 2000 and other relevant resolutions adopted subsequent to the entry into force of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea ("the Convention")[31] on 16 November 1994,

Recalling also its resolution 2749 (XXV) of 17 December 1970, and considering that the Convention, together with the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 ("the Agreement"),[32] provides the regime to be applied to the Area and its resources as defined in the Convention,

Emphasizing the universal and unified character of the Convention and its fundamental importance for the maintenance and strengthening of international peace and security, as well as for the sustainable development of the oceans and seas,

Reaffirming that the Convention sets out the legal framework within which all activities in the oceans and seas must be carried out and is of strategic importance as the basis for national, regional and global action in the marine sector, and that its integrity needs to be maintained, as recognized also by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[33]

Conscious of the importance of increasing the number of States parties to the Convention and the Agreement in order to achieve the goal of universal participation,

Conscious also that the problems of ocean space are closely interrelated and need to be considered as a whole through an integrated, interdisciplinary and intersectoral approach,

Convinced of the need, building on arrangements established in accordance with the Convention, to improve coordination at the national level and cooperation and coordination at both intergovernmental and inter-agency levels, in order to address all aspects of oceans and seas in an integrated manner,

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[31] See *The Law of the Sea: Official Texts of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 and of the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 with Index and Excerpts from the Final Act of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.V.10).

[32] Resolution 48/263, annex.

[33] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

Recognizing the important role that the competent international organizations have in relation to ocean affairs, in implementing the Convention and in promoting the sustainable development of the oceans and seas,

Recalling that the role of international cooperation and coordination on a bilateral basis and, where applicable, within a subregional, interregional, regional or global framework is to support and supplement the national efforts of all States, including coastal States, to promote the integrated management and sustainable development of coastal and marine areas,

Mindful of the importance of the oceans and seas for the earth's ecosystem and for providing the vital resources for food security and for sustaining economic prosperity and the well-being of present and future generations,

Bearing in mind the contribution that major groups, as identified in Agenda 21, can make to raising awareness of the goal of the sustainable development of the oceans and seas,

Underlining once again the essential need for capacity-building to ensure that all States, especially developing countries, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, are able both to implement the Convention and to benefit from the sustainable development of the oceans and seas, as well as to participate fully in global and regional forums and processes dealing with oceans and law of the sea issues,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[34] and reaffirming the importance of the annual consideration and review of developments relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea by the General Assembly as the global institution having the competence to undertake such a review,

Taking note also of the report on the work of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process ("the Consultative Process") established by the General Assembly in its resolution 54/33 in order to facilitate the annual review by the Assembly of developments in ocean affairs at its second meeting,[35]

Bearing in mind that marine science, by improving knowledge, through sustained research efforts and the evaluation of monitoring results, and applying such knowledge to management and decision-making, is important for eradicating poverty, contributing to food security, conserving the world's marine environment and resources, helping to understand, predict, mitigate the effects of and respond to natural events, and promoting the sustainable development of the oceans and seas,

Reaffirming the need to achieve the effective application of marine scientific knowledge and technology, through cooperation at the regional and global levels, by ensuring access of decision makers to relevant advice and information, as well as to the transfer of technology and support for the production and diffusion of factual data and knowledge for end-users, as appropriate, taking fully into account socio-economic factors and traditional ecological knowledge,

Emphasizing the urgent need for cooperation at the international level to address the issue of the acquisition, generation and transfer of marine scientific data to assist coastal developing States,

Convinced of the need to develop, where appropriate, a strong regional focus in marine scientific research and technology, through existing regional organizations, arrangements and programmes, so as to ensure the most effective use of the available resources and the protection and preservation of the marine environment, particularly by avoiding duplication and by achieving a holistic approach to the scientific study of the oceans and their resources,

Expressing deep concern once again at the continued increase in the number of incidents of piracy and armed robbery at sea, the harm they cause to seafarers, and the threats they pose to the safety of shipping and to the other uses of the sea, including marine scientific research and, consequently, to the marine and coastal environment, which are exacerbated further by the involvement of transnational organized crime,

Emphasizing, in this context, the need for the capacity-building and cooperation of all States and relevant international bodies at both the regional and global levels, as well as the business sectors, to prevent and combat piracy and armed robbery at sea,

Recognizing the importance of enhancing the safety of navigation, the need to provide accurate and up-to-date charts of world oceans in order to promote maritime safety, and the need to build hydrographic capacity, in particular for those States that do not yet have adequate hydrographic services,

Reiterating its serious concern at the increase in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, and recognizing the importance of combating such activities, particularly by strengthening bilateral cooperation, as well as through the relevant regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, and through the implementation of appropriate enforcement measures,

Expressing its deep concern once again at the degradation of the marine environment, particularly from land-based activities, and emphasizing the need for international cooperation and for a coordinated approach at the national and regional levels to this problem, bringing together the many different economic sectors involved and protecting the ecosystems, and in this context reaffirming the importance of ensuring the full implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities,[36]

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[34] A/56/58 and Add.1.

[35] See A/56/121.

Reiterating its concern also at the adverse impacts on the marine environment from ships, including pollution, in particular through the illegal release of oil and other harmful substances and by the dumping of hazardous waste, including radioactive materials, nuclear waste and dangerous chemicals, as well as the physical impacts on coral,

Welcoming resolution GC(45)/RES/10 adopted on 21 September 2001 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its forty-fifth regular session, concerning measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety, including those aspects relating to maritime transport safety,[37]

Bearing in mind the World Summit on Sustainable Development, to be held in Johannesburg, South Africa, in 2002, and emphasizing the importance, in the preparations for the Summit, of addressing the sustainable development of oceans and seas,

Noting the responsibilities of the Secretary-General under the Convention and related resolutions of the General Assembly, in particular resolutions 49/28, 52/26 and 54/33, and in this context the expected increase in responsibilities of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat in view of the progress in the work of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf ("the Commission") and the anticipated receipt of submissions from States,

I. Implementation of the Convention

1. *Calls upon* all States that have not done so, in order to achieve the goal of universal participation, to become parties to the Convention[31] and the Agreement;[32]

2. *Reaffirms* the unified character of the Convention;

3. *Calls upon* States to harmonize, as a matter of priority, their national legislation with the provisions of the Convention, to ensure the consistent application of those provisions and to ensure also that any declarations or statements that they have made or make when signing, ratifying or acceding to the Convention are in conformity therewith and, otherwise, to withdraw any of their declarations or statements that are not in conformity;

4. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to deposit with the Secretary-General charts and lists of geographical coordinates, as provided for in the Convention;

5. *Takes note* of the imminent entry into force of the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks;[38]

II. Capacity-building

6. *Urges* the international community to assist, as appropriate, developing countries, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, in the acquisition of data and the preparation of charts or lists of geographical coordinates for publication under articles 16, 22, 47, 75 and 84 of the Convention and in the preparation of information under article 76 and annex II to the Convention;

7. *Calls upon* bilateral and multilateral donor agencies to keep their programmes systematically under review to ensure the availability in all States, particularly in developing States, of the economic, legal, navigational, scientific and technical skills necessary for the full implementation of the Convention and the sustainable development of the oceans and seas nationally, regionally and globally, and in so doing to bear in mind the rights of landlocked developing States;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the competent international organizations and programmes, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Labour Organization, the International Hydrographic Organization, the International Maritime Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the World Meteorological Organization and the World Bank, as well as representatives of regional development banks and the donor community, to review the efforts being made to build capacity as well as to identify the duplications that need to be avoided and the gaps that may need to be filled for ensuring consistent approaches, both nationally and regionally, with a view to implementing the Convention, and to include a section on this subject in his annual report on oceans and the law of the sea;

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[36] A/51/116, annex II.

[37] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Forty-fifth Regular Session, 17–21 September 2001* (GC(45)/RES/DEC(2001)).

[38] *International Fisheries Instruments with Index* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.98.V.11), sect. I; see also A/CONF.164/37.

III. Meeting of States Parties

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene the twelfth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention in New York from 16 to 26 April 2002 and to provide the services required;

IV. Settlement of disputes

10. *Notes with satisfaction* the continued contribution of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea ("the Tribunal") to the peaceful settlement of disputes in accordance with Part XV of the Convention, underlines its important role and authority concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention and the Agreement, encourages States parties to the Convention to consider making a written declaration choosing from the means set out in article 287 for the settlement of disputes concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention and the Agreement, and invites States to note the provisions of annexes V, VI, VII and VIII to the Convention concerning, respectively, conciliation, the Tribunal, arbitration and special arbitration;

11. *Recalls* the obligations of parties under article 296 of the Convention, in cases before a court or a tribunal referred to in article 287 of the Convention, to ensure prompt compliance with the decisions rendered by such court or tribunal;

12. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to nominate conciliators and arbitrators in accordance with annexes V and VII to the Convention, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to update and circulate lists of these conciliators and arbitrators on a regular basis;

V. The Area

13. *Notes with satisfaction* the ongoing work of the International Seabed Authority ("the Authority"), including the issuance of contracts for exploration in accordance with the Convention, the Agreement and the Regulations on Prospecting and Exploration for Polymetallic Nodules in the Area;[39]

14. *Notes* the ongoing elaboration of recommendations for the guidance of contractors to ensure the effective protection of the marine environment from harmful effects that may arise from activities in the Area, and notes that the Council of the Authority will continue to consider issues relating to regulations for prospecting and exploration for polymetallic sulphides and cobalt-rich crusts in the Area at the next session of the Authority, to be held in Kingston from 5 to 16 August 2002;

VI. Effective functioning of the Authority and the Tribunal

15. *Appeals* to all States parties to the Convention to pay their assessed contributions to the Authority and to the Tribunal in full and on time, and appeals also to all former provisional members of the Authority to pay any outstanding contributions;

16. *Calls upon* States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the Tribunal[40] and to the Protocol on the Privileges and Immunities of the Authority;[41]

VII. The continental shelf

17. *Notes with satisfaction* the work of the Commission and its readiness to receive submissions by coastal States regarding the establishment of the outer limits of their continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, and encourages concerned States and relevant international organizations and institutions to consider developing and making available training courses to assist States in the preparation of such submissions;

18. *Takes note* of the decision of the eleventh Meeting of States Parties to the Convention that, in the case of a State party for which the Convention entered into force before 13 May 1999, it is understood that the ten-year time period referred to in article 4 of annex II to the Convention shall be taken to have commenced on 13 May 1999;[42]

19. *Encourages* States parties that are in a position to do so to make every effort to make submissions to the Commission within the time period established by the Convention;

20. *Approves* the convening by the Secretary-General of the tenth session of the Commission in New York starting on 25 March 2002, of a duration of three weeks in the event of a submission being filed, or of one week, depending on the workload of the Commission, of the eleventh session from 24 to 28 June 2002, and of the twelfth session from 26 to 30 August 2002;

VIII. Marine science and technology

21. *Stresses* the importance of the issues of marine science and technology and the need to focus on how best to implement the many obligations of States and competent international organizations under Parts XIII and XIV of the Convention, and calls upon States to adopt, as appropriate and in accordance with international law, such national laws, regulations, policies and procedures as are necessary to promote and facilitate marine scientific research and cooperation,

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[39] The contract with the remaining registered pioneer investor is expected to be issued in the very near future.

[40] SPLOS/25.

[41] ISBA/4/A/8, annex.

[42] SPLOS/72.

especially those relating to consent for marine scientific research projects as provided for in the Convention;

22. *Calls upon* States, through national and regional institutions, to ensure that, in respect of marine scientific research conducted pursuant to Part XIII of the Convention in areas over which a coastal State has jurisdiction, the rights of the coastal State under the Convention are respected and that, at the request of the coastal State, information, reports, results, conclusions and assessments of data, samples and research results are made available, and access to data and samples are provided, to that coastal State;

23. *Invites* the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to request its Advisory Body of Experts on the Law of the Sea to work, in close cooperation with the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat and in consultation with relevant regional or subregional organizations as appropriate, on the development of procedures under Part XIII of the Convention;

24. *Invites* the relevant United Nations agencies to continue to promote various ocean science programmes, strengthen the coordination among such programmes and develop rules, regulations and procedures within the framework of the Convention so as to facilitate the effective implementation of the programmes;

25. *Urges* relevant bodies of the United Nations system to develop, with the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission acting as a focal point, appropriate interactions in the field of marine science with regional fisheries organizations, environmental and scientific bodies or regional centres foreseen by Part XIV of the Convention, and encourages States to establish, where appropriate, such regional centres;

26. *Calls upon* States, through national and regional institutions engaged in marine scientific research, to ensure that the knowledge resulting from marine scientific research and monitoring is made available in a user-friendly data format, especially to developing countries, so that it can be employed by decision makers and resource managers with a view to the effective application of marine research knowledge and technology;

27. *Stresses* the importance of increasing the scientific understanding of the oceans/atmosphere interface and other factors required for an integrated ecosystem-based approach to the management of oceans and coastal areas, including through participation in ocean observing programmes and geographic information systems;

28. *Calls upon* States, through bilateral, regional and international financial organizations and technical partnerships, to continue to strengthen capacity-building activities, in particular in developing countries, in the field of marine scientific research by, inter alia, training the necessary skilled personnel, providing the necessary equipment, facilities and vessels, and transferring environmentally sound technologies;

IX. Piracy and armed robbery

29. *Urges* all States and relevant international bodies to prevent and combat piracy and armed robbery at sea by adopting measures, including assisting with capacity-building, for prevention, for reporting and investigating incidents, and for bringing the alleged perpetrators to justice, in accordance with international law, in particular through training seafarers, port staff and enforcement personnel, providing enforcement vessels and equipment and guarding against fraudulent ship registration;

30. *Welcomes* initiatives of the International Maritime Organization and Governments aimed at enhancing international cooperation, particularly at the regional level, and encourages the development by Governments, based on mutual trust, of a common approach to enforcement, investigation and prosecution in dealing with piracy and armed robbery at sea;

31. *Calls upon* States and private entities concerned to cooperate fully with the International Maritime Organization, including by submitting reports on incidents to the organization and by implementing its guidelines on preventing attacks of piracy and armed robbery;

32. *Urges* States to become parties to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation and its Protocol,[43] and to ensure its effective implementation, in particular through the adoption of legislation, where appropriate, aimed at ensuring that there is a proper framework for responses to incidents of armed robbery at sea;

X. Safety of navigation

33. *Invites* the International Hydrographic Organization, in cooperation with other relevant international organizations and interested Member States, to provide the necessary assistance to States, in particular to developing countries, in order to enhance hydrographic capability to ensure, in particular, the safety of navigation and the protection of the marine environment;

XI. Marine environment, marine resources and sustainable development

34. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Committee on Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations of the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, and urges States to take, as a matter of priority, all necessary steps to implement it effectively, including through

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[43] International Maritime Organization publication, Sales No. 462.88.12E.

relevant regional and subregional fisheries management organizations and arrangements;

35. *Emphasizes once again* the importance of the implementation of Part XII of the Convention in order to protect and preserve the marine environment and its living marine resources against pollution and physical degradation, and calls upon all States to cooperate and take measures, directly or through competent international organizations, for the protection and preservation of the marine environment;

36. *Calls upon* States to continue to prioritize action on marine pollution from land-based sources as part of their national sustainable development strategies and programmes, in an integrated and inclusive manner, as a means of implementing the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities,[36] and takes note of the review by the intergovernmental meeting in Montreal, Canada, from 26 to 30 November 2001;

37. *Calls upon* United Nations agencies and programmes identified in General Assembly resolution 51/189 of 16 December 1996 to continue to fulfil their roles in support of the Global Programme of Action, as well as to consult with Governments, representatives of the private sector, financial institutions and bilateral and multilateral donor agencies to review their involvement in the implementation of the Global Programme of Action and to consider, inter alia, what international support is needed to help overcome the obstacles to the preparation and implementation of national and local action programmes and how they can participate actively in partnership-building with developing countries for the transfer of the requisite technology in accordance with the Convention, and taking into account the relevant parts of Agenda 21, capacity-building and funding for the implementation of the Global Programme of Action;

38. *Calls upon* States to take measures for the protection and preservation of coral reefs and to support international efforts in this regard, in particular the measures outlined in the 1998 Renewed Call to Action of the International Coral Reef Initiative and in decision V/3 adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at its fifth meeting, held in Nairobi from 15 to 26 May 2000;[44]

39. *Emphasizes* the importance of ensuring that adverse impacts on the marine environment are taken into account when assessing and evaluating development programmes and projects;

40. *Once again urges* States to take all practicable steps, in accordance with the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto,[45] to prevent pollution of the marine environment from ships and, in accordance with the 1972 Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter,[46] to prevent pollution of the marine environment by dumping, and further calls upon States to become parties to and to implement the 1996 Protocol to the 1972 Convention;[47]

41. *Urges* States to continue to work, through the International Maritime Organization, on issues relating to the protection of the marine environment from degradation resulting from ship-based activities, including the transfer of harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens through ships' ballast water, and notes the adoption of the International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-fouling Systems on Ships;[48]

42. *Encourages* coastal States to enhance their national capacity and establish or improve their marine management systems in order to promote integrated marine management, the protection of the marine environment and ecosystem, and the sustainable development and utilization of marine resources, and invites the relevant agencies of the United Nations system and regional organizations to take effective measures to assist the coastal States in this regard;

XII. Underwater cultural heritage

43. *Takes note* of the adoption by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization of the Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage;

XIII. Activities of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea

44. *Invites* Member States and others in a position to do so to contribute to the further development of the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship Programme on the Law of the Sea established by the General Assembly in its resolution 35/116 of 10 December 1980 and to support the training activities under the TRAIN-SEA-COAST Programme of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea;

45. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the annual comprehensive report on oceans and the law of the sea,[34] prepared by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, as well as for the other activities of the Division, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and the mandate set forth in resolutions 49/28, 52/26 and 54/33;

46. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to carry out the responsibilities entrusted to him in the Convention and related resolutions of the General Assembly, including

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[44] See UNEP/CBD/COP/5/23, annex III.

[45] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1340, No. 22484.

[46] Ibid., vol. 1046, No. 15749.

[47] IMO/LC.2/Circ.380.

[48] International Maritime Organization, document AFS/CONF.26.

resolutions 49/28 and 52/26, and to ensure that appropriate resources are made available to the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea for the performance of such responsibilities under the approved budget for the Organization;

XIV. International coordination and cooperation

47. *Reaffirms* its decision to undertake an annual review and evaluation of the implementation of the Convention and other developments relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea, taking into account resolution 54/33 establishing the consultative process to facilitate the review of developments in ocean affairs, and requests the Secretary-General to convene the third meeting of the Consultative Process in New York from 8 to 15 April 2002;

48. *Recommends* that, in view of the forthcoming World Summit on Sustainable Development, in its deliberations on the report of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea at its third meeting, the Consultative Process organize its discussions around the following areas:

(*a*) Protection and preservation of the marine environment;

(*b*) Capacity-building, regional cooperation and coordination, and integrated ocean management, as important cross-cutting issues to address ocean affairs, such as marine science and the transfer of technology, sustainable fisheries, the degradation of the marine environment and the safety of navigation;

49. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure more effective collaboration and coordination between the relevant parts of the Secretariat of the United Nations and the United Nations as a whole, in particular in ensuring the effectiveness, transparency and responsiveness of the mechanism for coordination on ocean issues,[49] and also requests the Secretary-General to include in his report specific suggestions on initiatives to improve coordination, in particular at the inter-agency level, in accordance with resolution 54/33, and encourages all United Nations bodies to help this process by drawing to the attention of the Secretariat and the Subcommittee on Oceans and Coastal Areas of the Administrative Committee on Coordination those areas of their work which may, directly or indirectly, affect the work of other United Nations bodies;

50. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of heads of intergovernmental organizations, the specialized agencies and funds and programmes of the United Nations engaged in activities relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea, drawing their attention to paragraphs of particular relevance to them, and underlines the importance of their constructive and timely input for the report of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea and of their participation in relevant meetings and processes;

51. *Invites* the competent international organizations, as well as funding institutions, to take specific account of the present resolution in their programmes and activities, and to contribute to the preparation of the comprehensive report of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea;

XV. Trust funds

52. *Recognizes* the importance of the trust funds established by the Secretary-General pursuant to General Assembly resolution 55/7 for the purpose of assisting States in the settlement of disputes through the Tribunal,[50] and of assisting developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, in the preparation of submissions to the Commission in compliance with article 76 of the Convention,[51] in defraying the cost of participation of Commission members in the meetings of the Commission,[52] and in attending the meetings of the Consultative Process;[53] and invites States, intergovernmental organizations and agencies, national institutions, non-governmental organizations and international financial institutions, as well as natural and juridical persons, to make voluntary financial or other contributions to these trust funds;

XVI. Fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly

53. *Decides* to devote two days of plenary meetings at the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly, on 9 and 10 December 2002, to the consideration of the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea" and the commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the opening for signature of the Convention, and encourages Member States and observers to be represented at the highest possible level;

54. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution, including other developments and issues relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea, in connection with his annual comprehensive report on oceans and the law of the sea, and to provide the report in accordance with the modalities set out in resolution 54/33;

55. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea".

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[49] The mechanism for coordination at this time is the Subcommittee on Oceans and Coastal Areas of the Administrative Committee on Coordination, the status of which is currently under review as part of the reform of the machinery of the Administrative Committee on Coordination as a whole.

[50] See resolution 55/7, para. 9.

[51] Ibid., para. 18.

[52] Ibid., para. 20.

[53] Ibid., para. 45.

RESOLUTION 56/13

Adopted at the 67th plenary meeting, on 28 November 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.18 and Add.1, sponsored by: Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Portugal, Romania, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Tonga, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay

56/13. Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks

The General Assembly,

Recalling the relevant provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea ("the Convention"),[54] including Part VII, section 2,

Recognizing that, in accordance with the Convention, the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks ("the Agreement")[55] sets forth provisions concerning the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, including provisions on subregional and regional cooperation in enforcement, binding dispute settlement and the rights and obligations of States in authorizing the use of vessels flying their flags for fishing on the high seas,

Recognizing also the duty provided in the Agreement and reiterated as a principle in the Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas ("the Compliance Agreement")[56] and the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations[57] for flag States to exercise effective control over fishing vessels flying their flag and vessels flying their flag which provide support to such vessels, and to ensure that the activities of such vessels do not undermine the effectiveness of conservation and management measures taken in accordance with international law and adopted at the national, subregional, regional or global levels,

Noting with satisfaction the imminent entry into force of the Agreement due to the fact that thirty States have ratified or acceded to it, and noting also that the entry into force of the Agreement entails responsibilities for States parties and other important considerations as outlined in the Agreement,

Noting the obligation of all States, pursuant to the provisions of the Convention, to cooperate in the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks,

Conscious of the need to promote and facilitate international cooperation, in particular at the regional and subregional levels, in order to ensure the conservation, management and long-term sustainability of the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas, consistent with the present resolution, and deploring the fact that the straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks in many parts of the world are overfished or subject to heavy and sparsely regulated fishing efforts, mainly as a result of, inter alia, unauthorized fishing, inadequate regulatory measures and excess fishing capacity,

Conscious also that the Agreement requires States and entities to pursue cooperation in relation to straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks either directly or through appropriate subregional or regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, taking into account the specific characteristics of the subregion or region, to ensure the effective conservation, management and long-term sustainability of such stocks, and to establish such organizations or arrangements where none exist,

Recognizing the importance of the Agreement for the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks and the need for the regular consideration by the General Assembly and review by the parties to the Agreement pursuant to the provisions of the Agreement, once in force, of developments relating thereto,

Welcoming the conclusion of negotiations, and the commencement of preparatory work, to establish new regional instruments, arrangements and organizations in several heretofore unmanaged fisheries, and noting the role of the Convention and the Agreement in the elaboration of these instruments, arrangements and organizations,

Welcoming also the fact that a growing number of States and other entities, as well as regional and subregional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, have enacted legislation, established regulations, adopted conventions or taken other measures as steps towards implementation of the provisions of the Agreement, even before its entry into force,

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[54] See *The Law of the Sea: Official Texts of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 and of the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 with Index and Excerpts from the Final Act of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.V.10).

[55] *International Fisheries Instruments with Index* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.98.V.11), sect. I; see also A/CONF.164/37.

[56] *International Fisheries Instruments with Index* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.98.V.11), sect. II.

[57] Ibid., sect. III.

Taking into account that, in accordance with the Convention, the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and the Agreement, States fishing for straddling fish stocks or highly migratory fish stocks on the high seas, and relevant coastal States, shall give effect to their duty to cooperate by becoming members of the subregional or regional fisheries management organizations or participants in arrangements of that nature, or by agreeing to apply the conservation and management measures established by such organizations or arrangements, and that States having a real interest in the fisheries concerned may become members of such organizations or participants in such arrangements,

Recognizing the obligation of States to cooperate, either directly or through subregional, regional or global organizations, to enhance the ability of developing States, in particular the least developed among them and small island developing States, to conserve and manage straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks and to develop their own fisheries for such stocks,

Recognizing also the importance of the Compliance Agreement, which builds upon the legal framework established by the Convention, and noting that while twenty-two States have accepted it, the Compliance Agreement has not yet entered into force,

Concerned that illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, including that noted in the report of the Secretary-General,[58] threatens seriously to deplete populations of certain fish species, and in that regard urging States and entities to collaborate in efforts to address these types of fishing activities,

Welcoming the adoption by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations of an International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, which focuses on the primary responsibility of the flag State and the use of all available jurisdiction in accordance with international law, including port State measures, coastal State measures, market-related measures and measures to ensure that nationals do not support or engage in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing,

Noting that the objective of the International Plan of Action is to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing by providing all States with comprehensive, effective and transparent measures by which to act, including through appropriate regional fisheries management organizations established in accordance with international law,

Recalling that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in 1999 adopted international plans of action for the management of fishing capacity, for reducing the incidental catch of seabirds in longline fisheries and for the conservation and management of sharks,

Noting the importance of the wide application of the precautionary approach to the conservation, management and exploitation of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, in accordance with the Agreement,

Noting also the importance of implementing the principles elaborated in article 5 of the Agreement, including ecosystem considerations, in the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks,

Noting further the Reykjavik Declaration on Responsible Fisheries in the Marine Ecosystem, adopted on 4 October 2001,[59]

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General on recent developments and the current status of the Agreement,[60]

1. *Calls upon* all States and other entities referred to in article 1, paragraph 2 (*b*), of the Agreement[55] that have not done so to ratify or accede to it and to consider applying it provisionally;

2. *Calls upon* all States that have not done so, in order to achieve the goal of universal participation, to become parties to the Convention,[54] which sets out the legal framework within which all activities in the oceans and seas must be carried out, taking into account the relationship between the Convention and the Agreement;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of the entry into force and effective implementation of the provisions of the Agreement, including those provisions relating to bilateral, regional and subregional cooperation in enforcement, and urges continued efforts in this regard;

4. *Urges* all States and other entities referred to in the Agreement to pursue cooperation in relation to straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, either directly or through appropriate subregional or regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, to ensure the effective conservation, management and long-term sustainability of such stocks, to agree upon measures necessary to coordinate and, where there are no subregional or regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements in respect of particular straddling or highly migratory fish stocks, to cooperate to establish such organizations or enter into other appropriate arrangements;

5. *Welcomes* the initiation of negotiations to establish regional and subregional fisheries management organizations or arrangements in several fisheries, and urges participants in those

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[58] A/56/58/Add.1, para. 61.

[59] E/CN.17/2002/PC.2/3, annex.

[60] A/56/357.

negotiations to apply provisions of the Convention and the Agreement to their work;

6. *Anticipates* the entry into force of the Agreement, and requests the Secretary-General, once the Agreement enters into force, to consult with States that have either ratified or acceded to the Agreement, for the purposes and objectives of, inter alia, considering the regional, subregional and global implementation of the Agreement; making any appropriate recommendation to the General Assembly on the scope and content of the annual report of the Secretary-General relating to the Agreement; and preparing for the review conference to be convened by the Secretary-General pursuant to article 36 of the Agreement;

7. *Calls upon* States to provide assistance to developing States as outlined in the Agreement, notes the importance of participation by representatives of developing States in forums in which fisheries issues are discussed, and once the Agreement enters into force, agrees to review the implementation of the provisions calling for assistance to developing States and to facilitate the establishment of a programme of assistance within the Agreement;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his next report on the status and implementation of the Agreement a background study on the provisions of Part VII of the Agreement concerning requirements of developing States, taking into account existing arrangements and assistance to developing States that may be relevant under the Agreement, as well as suggesting possible forms of assistance;

9. *Invites* States and international financial institutions and organizations of the United Nations system to provide assistance according to Part VII of the Agreement, including, if appropriate, the development of special financial mechanisms or instruments to assist developing States, in particular the least developed among them and small island developing States, to enable them to develop their national capacity to exploit fishery resources, including developing their domestically flagged fishing fleet, value-added processing and expansion of their economic base in the fishing industry, consistent with the duty to ensure the proper conservation and management of those fisheries resources;

10. *Calls upon* all States and other entities referred to in article X, paragraph 1, of the Compliance Agreement[56] that have not done so to accept that instrument and afterwards to implement it effectively;

11. *Calls upon* all States to ensure that their vessels comply with the conservation and management measures in accordance with the Agreement that have been adopted by subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements;

12. *Calls upon* States not to permit vessels flying their flag to engage in fishing on the high seas without having effective control over their activities and to take specific measures, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention, the Agreement and the Compliance Agreement, to control fishing operations by vessels flying their flag;

13. *Takes note* of the outcome of the first meeting of the Joint Ad Hoc Working Group on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing and Related Matters of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Maritime Organization, held in Rome from 9 to 11 October 2000, which contained a number of recommendations aimed at enhancing flag State and port State control over fishing vessels, with a view to eliminating the roots of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;

14. *Calls upon* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and its members, in cooperation with States and entities, with regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and other competent international organizations, such as the International Maritime Organization, to address possible key issues constituting effective fishery-related flag State control of a fishing vessel;

15. *Urges* States, as a matter of priority, to coordinate their activities and cooperate directly and, as appropriate, through relevant regional fisheries management organizations, in the implementation of the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing recently adopted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,[61] to develop national plans of action on illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and management of fishing capacity, to promote information-sharing, to encourage the full participation of all stakeholders, and in all efforts to coordinate all the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations with other international organizations, including the International Maritime Organization;

16. *Encourages* States and other entities to integrate in an appropriate manner, including through subregional or regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements to which they are party or in which they are participants, the requirements for the protection of the environment, in particular those resulting from multilateral environmental agreements, in the management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks;

17. *Encourages* States to give effect to the principles elaborated in article 5 of the Agreement, including ecosystem considerations, in the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, and to incorporate those principles in fisheries management at the national level and in subregional or regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements to which they are

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[61] See Report of the Committee on Fisheries, Twenty-fourth session, Rome, 26 February–2 March 2001.

party or in which they are participants, or as appropriate at the global level;

18. *Urges* all States to apply the precautionary approach widely to the conservation, management and exploitation of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, and calls upon States parties to the Agreement to implement fully the provisions of article 6 of the Agreement as a matter of priority;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the status and implementation of the Agreement and on the impact of the entry into force of the Agreement on related or proposed instruments and programmes throughout the United Nations system relating to straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, taking into account information provided by States, relevant specialized agencies, in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and other appropriate organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, regional and subregional organizations and arrangements for the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, as well as other relevant intergovernmental bodies and non-governmental organizations, and including further developments relating to the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks and other aspects of the present resolution;

20. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session, under the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea", the sub-item entitled "Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks".

RESOLUTION 56/31

Adopted at the 72nd plenary meeting, on 3 December 2001, by a recorded vote of 130 to 2, with 10 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.23 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Palestine

* *In favour:* Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guyana, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Nauru

Abstaining: Australia, Haiti, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nicaragua, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, United States of America, Vanuatu

56/31. Jerusalem

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 36/120 E of 10 December 1981, 37/123 C of 16 December 1982, 38/180 C of 19 December 1983, 39/146 C of 14 December 1984, 40/168 C of 16 December 1985, 41/162 C of 4 December 1986, 42/209 D of 11 December 1987, 43/54 C of 6 December 1988, 44/40 C of 4 December 1989, 45/83 C of 13 December 1990, 46/82 B of 16 December 1991, 47/63 B of 11 December 1992, 48/59 A of 14 December 1993, 49/87 A of 16 December 1994, 50/22 A of 4 December 1995, 51/27 of 4 December 1996, 52/53 of 9 December 1997, 53/37 of 2 December 1998, 54/37 of 1 December 1999 and 55/50 of 1 December 2000, in which it, inter alia, determined that all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, which have altered or purported to alter the character and status of the Holy City of Jerusalem, in particular the so-called "Basic Law" on Jerusalem and the proclamation of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, were null and void and must be rescinded forthwith,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 478 (1980) of 20 August 1980, in which the Council, inter alia, decided not to recognize the "Basic Law" and called upon those States which had established diplomatic missions in Jerusalem to withdraw such missions from the Holy City,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[62]

1. *Determines* that the decision of Israel to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the Holy City of Jerusalem is illegal and therefore null and void and has no validity whatsoever;

2. *Deplores* the transfer by some States of their diplomatic missions to Jerusalem in violation of Security Council resolution 478 (1980) and their refusal to comply with the provisions of that resolution;

3. *Calls once more upon* those States to abide by the provisions of the relevant United Nations resolutions, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations;

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[62] A/56/480.

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/32

Adopted at the 72nd plenary meeting, on 3 December 2001, by a recorded vote of 90 to 5, with 54 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.24 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Palestine

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bolivia, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Tuvalu, United States of America

Abstaining: Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Yugoslavia

56/32. The Syrian Golan

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East",

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[63]

Recalling Security Council resolution 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

Reaffirming the fundamental principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming once more the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[64] to the occupied Syrian Golan,

Deeply concerned that Israel has not withdrawn from the Syrian Golan, which has been under occupation since 1967, contrary to the relevant Security Council and General Assembly resolutions,

Stressing the illegality of the Israeli settlement construction and activities in the occupied Syrian Golan since 1967,

Noting with satisfaction the convening in Madrid on 30 October 1991 of the Peace Conference on the Middle East, on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973 and 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978 and the formula of land for peace,

Expressing grave concern over the halt in the peace process on the Syrian track, and expressing the hope that peace talks will soon resume from the point they had reached,

1. *Declares* that Israel has failed so far to comply with Security Council resolution 497 (1981);

2. *Also declares* that the Israeli decision of 14 December 1981 to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan is null and void and has no validity whatsoever, as confirmed by the Security Council in its resolution 497 (1981), and calls upon Israel to rescind it;

3. *Reaffirms its determination* that all relevant provisions of the Regulations annexed to the Hague Convention of 1907,[65] and the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[64] continue to apply to the Syrian territory occupied by Israel since 1967, and calls upon the parties thereto to respect and ensure respect for their obligations under those instruments in all circumstances;

4. *Determines once more* that the continued occupation of the Syrian Golan and its de facto annexation constitute a stumbling block in the way of achieving a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the region;

5. *Calls upon* Israel to resume the talks on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks and to respect the commitments and undertakings reached during the previous talks;

6. *Demands once more* that Israel withdraw from all the occupied Syrian Golan to the line of 4 June 1967 in implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions;

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[63] Ibid.

[64] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[65] See Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, *The Hague Conventions and Declarations of 1899 and 1907* (New York, Oxford University Press, 1915).

7. *Calls upon* all the parties concerned, the co-sponsors of the peace process and the entire international community to exert all the necessary efforts to ensure the resumption of the peace process and its success by implementing Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973);

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/33

Adopted at the 72nd plenary meeting, on 3 December 2001, by a recorded vote of 106 to 5, with 48 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.19 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Guyana, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Zimbabwe, Palestine

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Tuvalu, United States of America

Abstaining: Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Vanuatu, Yugoslavia

56/33. Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 181 (II) of 29 November 1947, 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 3236 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974, 3375 (XXX) and 3376 (XXX) of 10 November 1975, 31/20 of 24 November 1976, 32/40 A of 2 December 1977, 33/28 A and B of 7 December 1978, 34/65 A of 29 November 1979 and 34/65 C of 12 December 1979, ES-7/2 of 29 July 1980, 35/169 A and C of 15 December 1980, 36/120 A and C of 10 December 1981, ES-7/4 of 28 April 1982, 37/86 A of 10 December 1982, 38/58 A of 13 December 1983, 39/49 A of 11 December 1984, 40/96 A of 12 December 1985, 41/43 A of 2 December 1986, 42/66 A of 2 December 1987, 43/175 A of 15 December 1988, 44/41 A of 6 December 1989, 45/67 A of 6 December 1990, 46/74 A of 11 December 1991, 47/64 A of 11 December 1992, 48/158 A of 20 December 1993, 49/62 A of 14 December 1994, 50/84 A of 15 December 1995, 51/23 of 4 December 1996, 52/49 of 9 December 1997, 53/39 of 2 December 1998, 54/39 of 1 December 1999 and 55/52 of 1 December 2000,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[66]

Recalling the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements, including its Annexes and Agreed Minutes, by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993,[67] as well as the subsequent implementation agreements, in particular the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, signed in Washington, D.C., on 28 September 1995,[68]

Reaffirming that the United Nations has a permanent responsibility with respect to the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects in a satisfactory manner in accordance with international legitimacy,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People for its efforts in performing the tasks assigned to it by the General Assembly;

2. *Considers* that the Committee can continue to make a valuable and positive contribution to international efforts to promote the Middle East peace process and the full implementation of the agreements reached and to mobilize international support for and assistance to the Palestinian people during the transitional period;

3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee contained in chapter VII of its report;[66]

4. *Requests* the Committee to continue to keep under review the situation relating to the question of Palestine and to report and make suggestions to the General Assembly or the Security Council, as appropriate;

5. *Authorizes* the Committee to continue to exert all efforts to promote the exercise of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, to make such adjustments in its approved programme of work as it may consider appropriate and necessary in the light of developments, to give special emphasis to the need to mobilize support and assistance for the Palestinian

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[66] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 35* (A/56/35).

[67] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[68] A/51/889-S/1997/357, annex.

people and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session and thereafter;

6. *Requests* the Committee to continue to extend its cooperation and support to Palestinian and other civil society organizations in order to mobilize international solidarity and support for the achievement by the Palestinian people of its inalienable rights and for a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, and to involve additional civil society organizations in its work;

7. *Requests* the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine, established under General Assembly resolution 194 (III), and other United Nations bodies associated with the question of Palestine to continue to cooperate fully with the Committee and to make available to it, at its request, the relevant information and documentation which they have at their disposal;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to circulate the report of the Committee to all the competent bodies of the United Nations, and urges them to take the necessary action, as appropriate;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Committee with all the necessary facilities for the performance of its tasks.

RESOLUTION 56/34

Adopted at the 72nd plenary meeting, on 3 December 2001, by a recorded vote of 107 to 5, with 47 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.20 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Guyana, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Zimbabwe, Palestine

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Tuvalu, United States of America

Abstaining: Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Vanuatu, Yugoslavia

56/34. Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[69]

Taking note in particular of the relevant information contained in chapter V.B of that report,

Recalling its resolutions 32/40 B of 2 December 1977, 33/28 C of 7 December 1978, 34/65 D of 12 December 1979, 35/169 D of 15 December 1980, 36/120 B of 10 December 1981, 37/86 B of 10 December 1982, 38/58 B of 13 December 1983, 39/49 B of 11 December 1984, 40/96 B of 12 December 1985, 41/43 B of 2 December 1986, 42/66 B of 2 December 1987, 43/175 B of 15 December 1988, 44/41 B of 6 December 1989, 45/67 B of 6 December 1990, 46/74 B of 11 December 1991, 47/64 B of 11 December 1992, 48/158 B of 20 December 1993, 49/62 B of 14 December 1994, 50/84 B of 15 December 1995, 51/24 of 4 December 1996, 52/50 of 9 December 1997, 53/40 of 2 December 1998, 54/40 of 1 December 1999 and 55/53 of 1 December 2000,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by the Secretary-General in compliance with its resolution 55/53;

2. *Considers* that the Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat continues to make a useful and constructive contribution;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Division with the necessary resources and to ensure that it continues to carry out its programme of work as detailed in the relevant earlier resolutions, in consultation with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and under its guidance, including, in particular, the organization of meetings in various regions with the participation of all sectors of the international community, the further development and expansion of the documents collection of the United Nations Information System on the Question of Palestine, the preparation and widest possible dissemination of publications and information materials on various aspects of the question of Palestine, and the provision of the annual training programme for staff of the Palestinian Authority;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the continued cooperation of the Department of Public Information and other units of the Secretariat in enabling the Division to perform its tasks and in covering adequately the various aspects of the question of Palestine;

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[69] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 35* (A/56/35).

5. *Invites* all Governments and organizations to extend their cooperation to the Committee and the Division in the performance of their tasks;

6. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by Member States to observe annually on 29 November the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, requests them to continue to give the widest possible publicity to the observance, and requests the Committee and the Division to continue to organize, as part of the observance of the Day of Solidarity, an annual exhibit on Palestinian rights in cooperation with the Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine to the United Nations.

RESOLUTION 56/35

Adopted at the 72nd plenary meeting, on 3 December 2001, by a recorded vote of 153 to 4, with 3 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.21 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Guyana, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Zimbabwe, Palestine

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), United States of America

Abstaining: Nauru, Tuvalu, Vanuatu

56/35. Special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[70]

Taking note in particular of the information contained in chapter VI of that report,

Recalling its resolution 55/54 of 1 December 2000,

Convinced that the worldwide dissemination of accurate and comprehensive information and the role of civil society organizations and institutions remain of vital importance in heightening awareness of and support for the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people,

Aware of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements signed by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993,[71] and of the subsequent implementation agreements, in particular the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip signed in Washington, D.C., on 28 September 1995,[72]

Recalling with satisfaction the important contribution made by the United Nations towards the promotion of the Bethlehem 2000 Project,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat in compliance with resolution 55/54;

2. *Considers* that the special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department is very useful in raising the awareness of the international community concerning the question of Palestine and the situation in the Middle East in general, including the achievements of the peace process, and that the programme is contributing effectively to an atmosphere conducive to dialogue and supportive of the peace process;

3. *Requests* the Department, in full cooperation and coordination with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, to continue, with the necessary flexibility as may be required by developments affecting the question of Palestine, its special information programme for the biennium 2002–2003, in particular:

(*a*) To disseminate information on all the activities of the United Nations system relating to the question of Palestine, including reports on the work carried out by the relevant United Nations organizations;

(*b*) To continue to issue and update publications on the various aspects of the question of Palestine in all fields, including materials concerning the recent developments in that regard, in particular the prospects for peace;

(*c*) To expand its collection of audiovisual material on the question of Palestine and to continue the production and preservation of such material, and the updating of the exhibit in the Secretariat;

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[70] Ibid.

[71] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[72] A/51/889-S/1997/357, annex.

(*d*) To organize and promote fact-finding news missions for journalists to the area, including the territory under the jurisdiction of the Palestinian Authority and the Occupied Territory;

(*e*) To organize international, regional and national seminars or encounters for journalists, aiming in particular at sensitizing public opinion to the question of Palestine;

(*f*) To continue to provide assistance to the Palestinian people in the field of media development, in particular to strengthen the training programme for Palestinian broadcasters and journalists initiated in 1995.

RESOLUTION 56/36

Adopted at the 72nd plenary meeting, on 3 December 2001, by a recorded vote of 131 to 6, with 20 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.22 and Add.1, as orally revised, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Guyana, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Zimbabwe, Palestine

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Tuvalu, United States of America

Abstaining: Australia, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Latvia, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

56/36. Peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including resolutions adopted at the tenth emergency special session,

Recalling also the relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967 and 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973,

Aware that it has been more than fifty years since the adoption of resolution 181 (II) of 29 November 1947 and thirty-four years since the occupation of Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, in 1967,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to the request made in its resolution 55/55 of 1 December 2000,[73]

Reaffirming the permanent responsibility of the United Nations with regard to the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects,

Convinced that achieving a final and peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, is imperative for the attainment of a comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East,

Aware that the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples is among the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations,

Affirming the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by war,

Affirming also the illegality of the Israeli settlements in the territory occupied since 1967 and of Israeli actions aimed at changing the status of Jerusalem,

Affirming once again the right of all States in the region to live in peace within secure and internationally recognized borders,

Recalling the mutual recognition between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, and the signing by the two parties of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993,[74] as well as the subsequent implementation agreements, including the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, signed in Washington, D.C., on 28 September 1995,[75]

Recalling also the withdrawal of the Israeli army, which took place in the Gaza Strip and the Jericho area in 1995 in accordance with the agreements reached by the parties, and the initiation of the Palestinian Authority in those areas, as well as the subsequent redeployments of the Israeli army in the rest of the West Bank,

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[73] A/56/642-S/2001/1100.

[74] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[75] A/51/889-S/1997/357, annex.

Noting with satisfaction the successful holding of the first Palestinian general elections,

Noting the appointment by the Secretary-General of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority, and its positive contribution,

Welcoming the convening of the Conference to Support Middle East Peace in Washington, D.C., on 1 October 1993, as well as all follow-up meetings and the international mechanisms established to provide assistance to the Palestinian people, including the donor meetings held in Lisbon on 7 and 8 June 2000 and in Stockholm on 11 April 2001,

Expressing its deep concern over the tragic events in Occupied East Jerusalem and the Occupied Palestinian Territory since 28 September 2000, which have resulted in a high number of deaths and injuries, mostly among Palestinian civilians, and concerned also about the clashes between the Israeli armed forces and the Palestinian police and the casualties on both sides,

Expressing its deep concern also over the continued imposition of closures and restrictions by Israel on the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, as well as the serious incursions into Palestinian-controlled areas and actions against Palestinian institutions,

Expressing its grave concern over the serious deterioration of the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and the difficulties facing the Middle East peace process,

Affirming the urgent need for the parties to implement the recommendations of the Sharm el-Sheikh Fact-Finding Committee (Mitchell Committee) and to resume negotiations towards a final peaceful settlement,

1. *Reaffirms* the necessity of achieving a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, in all its aspects;

2. *Expresses its full support* for the peace process, which began in Madrid, and the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 1993,[74] as well as the subsequent implementation agreements, and expresses the hope that the process will be reinvigorated and will soon lead to the establishment of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East;

3. *Stresses* the necessity for commitment to the principle of land for peace and the implementation of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973), which form the basis of the Middle East peace process;

4. *Calls upon* the concerned parties, the co-sponsors of the peace process and other interested parties, as well as the entire international community to exert all the efforts and initiatives necessary to reverse immediately all measures taken on the ground since 28 September 2000, in implementation of the recommendations of the Sharm el-Sheikh Fact-Finding Committee (Mitchell Committee), and in order to ensure a successful and speedy resumption of negotiations and conclusion of the peace process;

5. *Stresses* the need for:

(*a*) The realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, primarily the right to self-determination and the right to establish their independent State;

(*b*) The withdrawal of Israel from the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967;

6. *Also stresses* the need for resolving the problem of the Palestine refugees in conformity with its resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948;

7. *Urges* Member States to expedite the provision of economic and technical assistance to the Palestinian people during this critical period;

8. *Emphasizes* the importance for the United Nations to play a more active and expanded role in the current peace process and in the implementation of the Declaration of Principles;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts with the parties concerned, and in consultation with the Security Council, for the promotion of peace in the region and to submit progress reports on developments in this matter.

RESOLUTION 56/37

Adopted at the 74th plenary meeting, on 4 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.28 and Add.1, as orally revised, sponsored by: Algeria, Angola, Austria, Belgium, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Ireland, Italy, Kuwait, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, Nigeria, Portugal, Senegal, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Togo, Tunisia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe

56/37. Causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Working Group on the Causes of Conflict and the Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa[76] and the progress report of the Secretary-General,[77]

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[76] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 45* (A/56/45).

[77] A/56/371.

Recalling its resolutions 53/92 of 7 December 1998, 54/234 of 22 December 1999 and 55/217 of 21 December 2000 on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,

Recalling also its resolution 46/151 of 18 December 1991, the annex to which contains the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, its resolutions 48/214 of 23 December 1993, 49/142 of 23 December 1994 and 51/32 of 6 December 1996, on the mid-term review of the New Agenda, and its resolution 53/90 of 7 December 1998 on the implementation of the New Agenda, as well as chapter VII of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[78]

Reaffirming that the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General[79] constitutes a priority that must remain high on the agenda of the United Nations system and Member States,

Reaffirming also that the General Assembly, as the chief policy-making and representative organ of the United Nations, must continue to play the primary role in monitoring the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General and assessing the progress made,

Emphasizing the need to strengthen further the political will to ensure the political, financial, technical and other support critical for the effective implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General not only in the two thematic areas – education and conflict prevention and post-conflict peace-building – of the deliberations of the Working Group in 2001, but also in all the areas mentioned in the report,

Welcoming the adoption by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-seventh ordinary session, held at Lusaka from 9 to 11 July 2001, of the New African Initiative (now called New Partnership for Africa's Development),[80]

Mindful of the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2001 of the Economic and Social Council, on the role of the United Nations system in supporting the efforts of African countries to achieve sustainable development,[81]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Working Group on the Causes of Conflict and the Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa[76] and the progress report of the Secretary-General;[77]

2. *Notes with deep concern* that access to education at all levels in Africa remains low, despite the recognition that education plays a central role in conflict prevention and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development;

3. *Also notes with deep concern* that, while some efforts have been made in the prevention and settlement of conflicts, such efforts have not often brought positive results;

4. *Endorses* the recommendations entitled "Suggestions for further action and measures", contained in paragraphs 35 to 56 of the report of the Working Group;

5. *Decides* to suspend the activities of the Working Group during the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly in order to consider further measures for the implementation and monitoring of initiatives on Africa, including the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2001 of the Economic and Social Council, in the light of the forthcoming review of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s[82] and related initiatives, all of which should be guided by the New Partnership for Africa's Development;

6. *Invites* the Working Group to re-examine its mandate during the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly, including the most appropriate way to proceed with the deliberations of the Working Group as well as the scope and nature of its work;

7. *Decides* to continue to monitor the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa;[79]

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a comprehensive report on the implementation of the recommendations contained in his report, including concrete measures needed to ensure a coordinated and integrated approach to the full and early implementation of the recommendations;

9. *Requests* that the Secretary-General designate the already established interdepartmental/inter-agency task force as the permanent focal point within the Secretariat mandated to monitor the implementation of the recommendations contained in his report, and also requests that the task force be strengthened with the necessary human, managerial and administrative resources effectively to carry out this task;

10. *Also requests* that the task force provide Member States, on an annual basis, with updated matrices indicating the current status of implementation of the various recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General.

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[78] See resolution 55/2.

[79] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

[80] See A/56/457, annex I. AHG/Decl. 1 (XXXVII).

[81] A/56/3, chap. III, para. 29. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 3.*

[82] See resolution 46/151, annex.

RESOLUTION 56/38

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 5 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.27 and Add.1, as orally revised, sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

56/38. Recommendations on support for volunteering

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 52/17 of 20 November 1997, in which it proclaimed the year 2001 as the International Year of Volunteers, based on Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/44 of 22 July 1997, and its resolution 55/57 of 4 December 2000, in which it requested the Secretary-General to prepare a report on ways in which Governments and the United Nations system could support volunteering, and bearing in mind Commission for Social Development resolution 39/2 of 23 February 2001,[83]

Recalling also the outcome document of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world",[84] in which the General Assembly recommended the promotion of the involvement of volunteers in social development, inter alia, by encouraging Governments, taking into account the views of all actors, to develop comprehensive strategies and programmes by raising public awareness about the value and opportunities of volunteerism and by facilitating an enabling environment for individuals and other actors of civil society to engage in voluntary activities, and the private sector to support such activities,

Recalling further paragraphs 73 and 179 (*f*) of the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women,[85] paragraph 42 of the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium adopted at the twenty-fifth special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) in June 2001,[86] and paragraphs 32 (i) (*b*) and 41 (ii) (*a*) of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010 adopted at the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries in May 2001,[87]

Recognizing the valuable contribution of volunteering, including traditional forms of mutual aid and self-help, formal service delivery and other forms of civic participation, to economic and social development, benefiting society at large, communities and the individual volunteer,

Recognizing also that volunteerism is an important component of any strategy aimed at, inter alia, such areas as poverty reduction, sustainable development, health, disaster prevention and management and social integration and, in particular, overcoming social exclusion and discrimination,

Recognizing further the existing contribution of the organizations of the United Nations system to supporting volunteering, including the work of United Nations Volunteers around the world, by promoting volunteerism, including by placing volunteers,

Aware of the need to approach voluntary activities strategically as a means of enhancing resources, addressing global issues and improving the quality of life for everyone,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on support for volunteering;[88]

2. *Also welcomes* the work of the United Nations Volunteers as the focal point for the International Year of Volunteers in supporting national International Year of Volunteers committees and in collecting and disseminating information on the Year, including through its web site;[89]

3. *Expresses its appreciation* regarding the support to the International Year of Volunteers extended by States, international organizations and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, especially at the local, national and regional levels;

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[83] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 6* and corrigendum (E/2001/26 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. E.

[84] See resolution S-24/2, annex.

[85] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[86] See resolution S-25/2, annex.

[87] A/CONF.191/11.

[88] A/56/288.

[89] www.iyv2001.org.

4. *Commends* the ongoing contributions of all volunteers to society, including in extraordinary conditions such as disasters;

5. *Encourages* all people to become more engaged in voluntary activities;

6. *Lays down* in the annex to the present resolution the recommendations on ways in which Governments and the United Nations system could support volunteering;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take specific measures, in particular within the mandates of the United Nations Volunteers and the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, to disseminate widely the present resolution and the annex;

8. *Calls upon* all Governments and organizations of the United Nations system to give these recommendations due consideration;

9. *Decides* that on 5 December 2002, International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development, two plenary meetings at the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly shall be devoted to the outcome of the International Year of Volunteers and its follow-up under the agenda item entitled "Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family";

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in his report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the outcome of the International Year of Volunteers and its followup, to include proposals for an integrated and coordinated follow-up, to be pursued in the relevant parts of the United Nations system, as well as on cross-cutting issues, building on his report to the Assembly at the present session and taking into account the present resolution, the discussions held during the present session and other relevant contributions.

Annex

Recommendations on ways in which Governments and the United Nations system could support volunteering

I. General considerations

1. In these recommendations, the terms volunteering, volunteerism and voluntary activities refer to a wide range of activities, including traditional forms of mutual aid and self-help, formal service delivery and other forms of civic participation, undertaken of free will, for the general public good and where monetary reward is not the principal motivating factor.

2. Actions by Governments and the United Nations system are mutually reinforcing but are treated separately below for the sake of clarity.

3. There is not one universal model of best practice, since what works well in one country may not work in another with very different cultures and traditions.

4. Support for voluntary activities does not imply support for government downsizing or for replacing paid employment.

5. It is not just targeted measures that have an impact on volunteering; general social and economic policy measures can also influence citizens' opportunities and willingness to volunteer.

6. Neglecting to factor volunteering into the design and implementation of policies could entail the risk of overlooking a valuable asset and undermine traditions of cooperation that bind communities together.

7. It is important to ensure that opportunities for volunteering in all sectors are open both to women and men, given their different levels of participation in different areas, and recognizing the potential positive effect of volunteering on the empowerment of women.

II. Government support

1. It is recommended that Governments further support voluntary activities by creating a favourable environment, including through the following policies and measures, and taking into account the local cultural context.

(a) *Increasing public awareness of the vital contribution of volunteerism to the social and economic functioning of their communities through, inter alia, public information activities and public events*

(i) Highlight the contribution of volunteering; organize briefings and seminars for policy makers and the media. Official papers on the status of volunteering and the issues that need to be addressed can be published and widely disseminated. High-profile events and campaigns can be organized on national days and on International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development on 5 December. Negative stereotyping of volunteers can be challenged. The promotion of volunteering can be achieved through special programmes and public service announcements or by joint initiatives such as award schemes;

(ii) Encourage the media to play a supportive role in public awareness-raising activities;

(iii) Disseminate the results of studies and surveys on the contribution of volunteerism, where they exist, through the media, schools, non-governmental organizations and other channels.

(b) *Taking general measures concerning encouragement and facilitation, preparation, training and recognition of volunteers*

(i) Provide, in a way complementary to the support from other sources, an adequate human and physical infrastructure for volunteering. This could include, inter alia, awareness-raising campaigns, development of a volunteer centre infrastructure, establishment of focal points or the use of pilot schemes and the promotion of online volunteering. Specific campaigns in the area of, for example, mass immunization, literacy, or low-cost housing, could include budgetary provision for the encouragement and facilitation, orientation and training, monitoring and recognition of volunteers;

(ii) Facilitate the establishment and functioning of volunteer centres, which provide a valuable stimulus to formal service volunteering through advocacy, monitoring and encouraging new initiatives. National volunteer centres provide effective leadership in the formal volunteer movement, while regional and local centres ensure linkages with the grass-roots communities and organizations. Legal and fiscal frameworks are important factors in the sustainability of such centres and financial support may also be desirable;

(iii) Provide or facilitate specialized training and the formation of professional volunteer managers and trainers in the area of formal service volunteering, including by introducing formal credentials and standards;

(iv) Encourage public sector workers to volunteer, for instance by facilitating measures, recognition, career enhancement incentives and the establishment of a dedicated special unit. This sets a positive example for society and helps to strengthen the sense of collective responsibility.

(c) *Enabling fiscal, legislative and other frameworks, including for community-based organizations and not-for-profit organizations engaged in volunteering*

(i) Introduce enabling legislation. The goal is to encourage or inspire citizens to volunteer but allow the choice to rest with the individual or organization; it can also facilitate employee volunteering. It can provide tax incentives and subsidies for organizations, as well as coverage and protection against risks, in a way fitting the particular society;

(ii) Facilitate partnership-building around volunteer-based activities of civil society, including arrangements for joint planning, implementation and monitoring. This could incorporate employee volunteer activities of the private sector.

(d) *Encouraging and undertaking research in the various aspects of volunteerism and its impact on society*

(i) Ensure that consideration of the issues regarding volunteering is based on a sound appreciation and analysis of the parameters, profile and trends of volunteering in the particular country context. Studies on volunteering can be undertaken by independent public policy research and/or academic institutions. Governments can also initiate research themselves, in partnership with other stakeholders;

(ii) Establish the economic value of volunteering to help to highlight one important aspect of its overall contribution to society and thereby assist in the development of informed policies which take into account the different levels of participation of women and men, youth and older people in different fields of volunteering.

(e) *Ensuring citizens' access to information on opportunities for volunteering*

(i) Facilitate the establishment of national databases on volunteer opportunities in collaboration with community-based organizations and not-for-profit organizations;

(ii) Disseminate information through the media, schools, and other channels with particular attention given to ensuring that information is accessible also to disadvantaged segments of the population. Encourage media companies to support and expand the concept of pro bono public service announcements on behalf of volunteer-based organizations and activities.

(f) *Addressing the possible impact of general social and economic policy measures upon citizens' opportunities and willingness to volunteer*

(i) Take into account the possible impact of general social and economic policy upon citizens' opportunities to volunteer. Such a "volunteer check" could pertain to measures related to labour, for example, such as the length of the work week and the age of retirement, which have an impact on the profile of volunteering. Legal and fiscal measures could also be reviewed to assess whether they impinge negatively on the status of volunteer-involving organizations, including issues related to juridical status, rights to associational activities, and resource mobilization. Subsequently, legal and administrative hindrances to volunteering, where they exist, can be reduced;

(ii) Give due weight to local ownership and citizen participation, to bring public services closer to communities and to open space for greater citizen engagement expressed through channels such as parental involvement in schools and community involvement in natural resource management;

(iii) Recognize that transport, communication and other infrastructure, such as public spaces, enhance the capacity of people to organize for voluntary activities. This is especially true of geographically dispersed populations and of people living in poverty, as well as older persons and people with disabilities. It is desirable that the impact of such infrastructure on levels of volunteering be factored into the planning process.

(g) *Integrating volunteerism into national development planning, recognizing the potential contribution of volunteerism to the achievement of sustainable development goals*

(i) Extend the notion of volunteerism as an additional valuable component of national development planning to development cooperation policy. Recognizing and building strategically on rich, local traditions of voluntary self-help and mutual aid can open the way to building up a new constituency in support of development efforts. Forging a link in the mind of the general public in countries providing development assistance between domestic volunteering in those countries and volunteering in countries receiving assistance can also help enlist public support for development cooperation.

(h) *Participation of all population groups*

(i) Consider all means available for more people to become involved in voluntary activities and to be drawn from a broader cross-section of society, including youth, older persons and people with disabilities and persons belonging to minorities, targeting opportunities for voluntary activities to facilitate the active participation of those groups which have little or no access to the benefits of engaging in volunteering;

(ii) Promote volunteering within educational establishments and youth services; develop specific programmes to encourage youth volunteering; put in place systems to recognize and accredit volunteering by youth; and work with the media to present an attractive image of volunteering. This can have a significant impact on the level of youth participation and constitute a sound investment in a country's human resources.

III. Support by the United Nations system

1. It is recommended that the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions, further support voluntary activities by creating a favourable environment, including through:

(a) *Awareness-raising*

(i) Raise awareness internally and with their partners as regards the role of volunteerism in the various areas in which they are active and can sensitize their constituencies as to the implications in terms of activities undertaken. At the political level, strategically manage and support volunteering and incorporate it into the agenda of their meetings;

(ii) Undertake research and disseminate information about the cross-cutting link between volunteerism and major global concerns, including through technical and popular publications, workshops and Internet sites. This would serve also to extend recognition to volunteers and their organizations, which could be complemented by awards and other measures, including raising the profile of International Volunteer Day.

(b) *Recognition of the contributions of volunteers*

(i) Enhance and expand the current practice of extending special recognition to volunteers and volunteer-involving organizations across the United Nations system.

(c) *Involving volunteers in their programmes, interlinking with national initiatives*

(i) Include volunteers in their activities, supporting, inter alia, the establishment of volunteer schemes to address a range of global concerns. Where they exist, national and local volunteer centres could benefit substantially from the specialized expertise and networks of the United Nations system;

(ii) Actively encourage staff of the United Nations system to volunteer, utilizing their special skills and experiences.

(d) *Long-term planning for the enhancement of social capital by including all segments of society in volunteering*

(i) Make a strategic choice for the involvement of all segments of society, including youth, older persons and people with disabilities and persons belonging to minorities, targeting opportunities for voluntary activities to facilitate the participation of those groups that have little or no access to the benefits of engaging in volunteering. In this way, building on societal norms and networks will enhance the social capital of the society concerned, strengthen its capacity for development and have a lasting impact on its well-being.

(e) *Assisting in building national capacities, including in the field of training*

(i) Assist countries, upon request, in building national capacities, including in the field of training, and further support Governments in their actions to promote volunteerism as a strategic tool to enhance economic and social development;

(ii) Recognize the continuing role of the United Nations Volunteers as the volunteer arm of the United Nations system, placing volunteers in development and humanitarian programmes and promoting online volunteering. Build on the acquired experience of the United Nations Volunteers in enhancing the recognition, facilitation, networking and promotion of volunteering, deriving from its role as focal point for the International Year of Volunteers.

RESOLUTION 56/39

Adopted at the 80th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.25/Rev.2 and Add.1, sponsored by: Angola, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Equatorial Guinea, France, Gabon, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

56/39. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Community of Central African States

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/22 of 10 November 2000 and 55/161 of 12 December 2000 on cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Community of Central African States,

Bearing in mind the charter establishing the Economic Community of Central African States, by which the Central African countries have agreed to work for the economic development of their subregion, to promote economic cooperation and to establish a Common Market of Central Africa,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted on 8 September 2000 by the heads of State and Government at the Millennium Summit of the United Nations,[90] and especially chapter VII thereof,

Noting that, at the ninth regular session of the Economic Community of Central African States, held in Malabo on 24 June 1999, the heads of State and Government of the member States decided to resume the activities of the Community by providing it with sufficient financial and human resources to enable it to become a real tool for the integration of their economies and to foster the development of cooperation between their peoples, with the ultimate aim of making it one of the five pillars of the African Economic Community and of helping Central Africa to meet the challenges of globalization,

Bearing in mind the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[91]

Welcoming the establishment of the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa with a view to creating a climate of peace and security in the subregion and strengthening the rule of law essential to its development,

Welcoming also the launching of the activities of the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa, in accordance with the recommendations of the General Assembly in its resolutions 53/78 A of 4 December 1998 and 54/55 A of 1 December 1999, with a view to strengthening democracy, respect for human rights and the rule of law in the subregion,

Commending the States members of the Economic Community of Central African States for their undertaking to strengthen arrangements for cooperation within the Community,

Noting that, owing to the conflicts, loss of human lives and destruction of the economic and social infrastructure in Central Africa, it is essential to continue and strengthen the recovery programmes in order to restart the economy of the countries of the subregion,

Noting with deep concern the danger of an increase in poverty, in particular in rural areas, due to the conflicts, loss of human lives and destruction of the economic and social infrastructure,

Stressing the need for continued and strengthened recovery programmes in order to restart the economy of the countries of the subregion,

Welcoming the contribution made by the United Nations system to supplement the efforts made at the national and subregional levels with a view to promoting the process of democratization, recovery and development in Central Africa,

Aware of the opportunities and challenges which may result from the process of globalization and liberalization for the economies of the countries of the subregion,

Noting with satisfaction the measures taken by the Economic Community of Central African States to combat the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS),

Noting the important contribution of women in the development process,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Community of Central African States;[92]

2. *Commends* those States Members of the United Nations and United Nations organs, organizations and agencies which have maintained or strengthened their cooperation with the Economic Community of Central African States or have begun to cooperate with it with a view to achieving peace, security and development;

3. *Invites* those States Members of the United Nations and United Nations organs, organizations and agencies which have not yet established contact or relations with the Economic Community of Central African States to consider doing so;

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[90] See resolution 55/2.

[91] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

[92] A/56/301.

4. *Welcomes* the financial, technical and material support given to the Economic Community of Central African States by the international community;

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of appropriate cooperation between the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions, and the Economic Community of Central African States;

6. *Once again requests* the international community to consider seriously increases in its financial, technical and material support to the Economic Community of Central African States to enable it to implement fully its programme of action and to respond to the needs of the subregion for reconstruction and recovery;

7. *Urges* all Member States and the international community to contribute to the efforts of the Economic Community of Central African States to achieve economic integration and development, promote democracy and human rights and consolidate peace and security in Central Africa and to implement the goals, targets and commitment of the United Nations conferences and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[90] in particular, to strengthen the role of women in the development process;

8. *Welcomes* the reforms which the Economic Community of Central African States is carrying out, in particular the implementation of its programme of action, so that it may be in a better position to tackle the problems of cooperation and regional integration;

9. *Urges* the international community and the United Nations agencies to continue to provide those countries of the Economic Community of Central African States in which a process of national reconstruction is taking place with appropriate assistance to consolidate their efforts towards democratization and the consolidation of the rule of law and to support their national development programmes;

10. *Declares itself convinced* of the importance of well-conceived global development strategies in order to avoid conflicts and disturbances and aware of the value of international cooperation and efforts to restore and maintain peace, and emphasizes that the international community should continue to help those countries which receive refugees to meet the resulting economic, social, humanitarian and environmental challenges;

11. *Urges* the United Nations and the international community to help to strengthen the means existing in the region to ensure that the Economic Community of Central African States has the necessary capacity with regard to prevention, monitoring, early warning and peacekeeping operations;

12. *Invites* the international community to consider supporting the creation of special economic zones and development corridors in the Economic Community of Central African States, with the active participation of the private sector;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to enhance contacts with the Economic Community of Central African States, with a view to encouraging and harmonizing cooperation between the United Nations and the Community;

14. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/40

Adopted at the 80th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.26 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen

56/40. Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States,[93]

Recalling article 3 of the Pact of the League of Arab States,[94] which entrusts the Council of the League with the function of determining the means whereby the League will collaborate with the international organizations which may be created in the future to guarantee peace and security and organize economic and social relations,

Noting the desire of both organizations to consolidate, develop and enhance further the ties existing between them in the political, economic, social, humanitarian, cultural, technical and administrative fields,

Taking into account the report of the Secretary-General entitled "An Agenda for Peace",[95] in particular section VII, concerning cooperation with regional arrangements and organizations, and the "Supplement to An Agenda for Peace",[96]

Convinced of the need for more efficient and coordinated utilization of available economic and financial resources in order to promote the common objectives of the two organizations,

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[93] A/56/474.

[94] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 70, No. 241.

[95] A/47/277-S/24111.

[96] A/50/60-S/1995/1.

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General;[93]

2. *Commends* the continued efforts of the League of Arab States to promote multilateral cooperation among Arab States, and requests the United Nations system to continue to lend its support;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the follow-up action taken by him to implement the proposals adopted at the meetings between the representatives of the secretariats of the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations, including the general meeting on cooperation between the United Nations system and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations held in Vienna, from 17 to 19 July 2001;

4. *Requests* the Secretariat of the United Nations and the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States, within their respective fields of competence, to intensify further their cooperation for the realization of the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, the strengthening of international peace and security, economic and social development, disarmament, decolonization, self-determination and the eradication of all forms of racism and racial discrimination;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to strengthen cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and other organizations and agencies of the United Nations system and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations in order to enhance their capacity to serve the mutual interests and objectives of the two organizations in the political, economic, social, humanitarian, cultural and administrative fields;

6. *Calls upon* the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system:

(*a*) To continue to cooperate with the Secretary-General and among themselves, as well as with the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations, in the follow-up of multilateral proposals aimed at strengthening and expanding cooperation in all fields between the United Nations system and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations;

(*b*) To strengthen the capacity of the League of Arab States and of its institutions and specialized organizations to benefit from globalization and information technology and to meet the development challenges of the new millennium;

(*c*) To step up cooperation and coordination with the specialized organizations of the League of Arab States in the organization of seminars and training courses and in the preparation of studies;

(*d*) To maintain and increase contacts and improve the mechanism of consultation with the counterpart programmes, organizations and agencies concerned regarding projects and programmes in order to facilitate their implementation;

(*e*) To participate whenever possible with organizations and institutions of the League of Arab States in the execution and implementation of development projects in the Arab region;

(*f*) To inform the Secretary-General, not later than 30 June 2002, of the progress made in their cooperation with the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations and, in particular, of the follow-up action taken on the multilateral and bilateral proposals adopted at the previous meetings between the two organizations;

7. *Also calls upon* the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to increase their cooperation with the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations in the priority sectors of energy, rural development, desertification and green belts, training and vocational education, technology, environment and information and documentation;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in cooperation with the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States, to encourage periodic consultation between representatives of the Secretariat of the United Nations and of the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States in order to review and strengthen coordination mechanisms with a view to accelerating implementation of, and follow-up action on, the multilateral projects, proposals and recommendations adopted at the meetings between the two organizations;

9. *Recommends* that the United Nations and all organizations of the United Nations system make the greatest possible use of Arab institutions and technical expertise in projects undertaken in the Arab region;

10. *Reaffirms* that, in order to enhance cooperation and for the purpose of the review and appraisal of progress, a general meeting between representatives of the United Nations system and the League of Arab States should be held once every two years and that joint inter-agency sectoral meetings should also be convened on a biennial basis to address priority areas of major importance to the development of the Arab States, on the basis of agreement between the United Nations system and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations;

11. *Recommends* that a sectoral meeting between the United Nations and the League of Arab States be held at the headquarters of the League of Arab States in Cairo during 2002 on the use of information technology in development;

12. *Also recommends* that the next general meeting on cooperation between the representatives of the secretariats of organizations of the United Nations system and of the General

Secretariat of the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations be held during 2003;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States".

RESOLUTION 56/41

Adopted at the 80th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.29 and Add.1, sponsored by: Australia, Barbados, Belarus, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, Comoros, Cuba, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Fiji, France, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Kiribati, Kuwait, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Portugal, Samoa, Senegal, Seychelles, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tuvalu, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Vanuatu

56/41. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Pacific Islands Forum

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/1 of 17 October 1994, by which it granted observer status to the South Pacific Forum,

Taking note of the communiqué of the thirtieth meeting of the Pacific Islands Forum, held in Koror from 3 to 5 October 1999, which, inter alia, agreed to change the name of the organization from the "South Pacific Forum" to the "Pacific Islands Forum",

Recalling that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to achieve international cooperation in addressing international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character,

Bearing in mind that one of the purposes of the Pacific Islands Forum, established in 1971, is to promote regional cooperation among its members through trade, investment, economic development and political and international affairs,

Welcoming the ongoing efforts towards closer cooperation between the United Nations and the Pacific Islands Forum,

Bearing in mind the provisions of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations on the existence of regional arrangements or agencies for dealing with such matters relating to the maintenance of international peace and security as are appropriate for regional action and other activities consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Welcoming the assistance given by the United Nations towards the maintenance of peace and security in the Pacific Islands Forum region,

Welcoming also the fact that in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted by resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000, heads of State and Government resolved to address the special needs of small island developing States by implementing the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[97] and the outcome of the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly,[98]

Taking note of the communiqué of the thirty-second meeting of the Pacific Islands Forum, held in Yaren from 16 to 18 August 2001,[99]

Affirming the need to strengthen the cooperation that already exists between entities of the United Nations system and the Pacific Islands Forum in the areas of economic and social development, as well as in political and humanitarian affairs,

Mindful of the need for the coordinated utilization of available resources to promote the common objectives of the two organizations,

1. *Takes note* of the decision of the heads of Government of the Pacific Islands Forum on the pursuit of a closer and cooperative relationship between the United Nations and the Pacific Islands Forum;

2. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to take the necessary measures, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the Pacific Islands Forum, to promote and expand cooperation and coordination between the two secretariats in order to increase the capacity of the organizations to attain their common objectives;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the Pacific Islands Forum, to promote, as a matter of priority, meetings between their representatives for consultations on policies, projects and procedures that will facilitate, broaden and, if necessary, formalize, cooperation and coordination between the two organizations;

4. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the Pacific Islands Forum, to assist in the development of long-term peace-building programmes to address new security threats in the Pacific Islands Forum region;

5. *Urges* specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to cooperate with the Secretary-General of the United Nations in order to

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[97] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[98] See resolution S-22/2.

[99] See A/56/388.

initiate, maintain and increase consultations and programmes with the Pacific Islands Forum and its associated institutions in the attainment of their objectives;

6. *Invites* initiatives from Member States to assist in the cooperation efforts between the United Nations and the Pacific Islands Forum;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Pacific Islands Forum".

RESOLUTION 56/42

Adopted at the 80th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.30, sponsored by the Netherlands

56/42. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/283 of 7 September 2001, in which it approved the Agreement concerning the Relationship between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, and the decision of 17 May 2001 of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction to approve the Agreement,[100]

Having received the annual report for 2000 of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons on the implementation of the Convention,[101]

1. *Welcomes* the entry into force of the Agreement concerning the Relationship between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons;

2. *Takes note* of the annual report for 2000 of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons submitted by its Director-General on its behalf;[101]

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons".

RESOLUTION 56/43

Adopted at the 80th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.31 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Nauru, Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

56/43. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Agreement between the Council of Europe and the Secretariat of the United Nations signed on 15 December 1951 and the Arrangement on Cooperation and Liaison between the secretariats of the United Nations and the Council of Europe of 19 November 1971,

Acknowledging the contribution of the Council of Europe to the protection and strengthening of democracy, human rights and fundamental freedoms and the rule of law on the European continent, including its activities against racism and intolerance, the promotion of gender equality, social development and a common cultural heritage,

Acknowledging also that, with its significant expertise in the field of human rights, democratic institutions and the rule of law, the Council of Europe is contributing to conflict prevention, confidence-building and long-term post-conflict peace-building through political, legal and institutional reform,

Stressing the importance of adherence to the standards and principles of the Council of Europe and its contribution to the solution of conflicts throughout the whole of Europe,

Acknowledging the contribution of the Council of Europe to the development of international law, inter alia, international criminal law,

Noting the increasing openness of the Council of Europe, through its legal instruments, to the participation of States of other regions,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;[102]

2. *Notes with appreciation* the further improvement of cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and its agencies and the Council of Europe, both at the level of headquarters and in the field;

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[100] See A/55/988.

[101] See A/56/490.

[102] A/56/302.

3. *Welcomes* the increasingly close cooperation between the Council of Europe, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;

4. *Welcomes also* the efforts of the Council of Europe to assist States in the ratification and implementation of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,[103] in particular the most recent meeting, held in Strasbourg, France, on 13 and 14 September 2001;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Council of Europe for its contribution to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001;

6. *Welcomes* the contribution of the Council of Europe to the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on children, to be held in 2002;

7. *Commends strongly* the contribution of the Council of Europe to international action against terrorism, as defined by the Committee of Ministers of the Council in the conclusions of its session of 7 and 8 November 2001 in Strasbourg, taking into account Security Council resolutions 1368 (2001) of 12 September 2001 and 1373 (2001) of 28 September 2001, including the intensification of legal cooperation to combat terrorism;

8. *Welcomes* the participation of the Council of Europe in the implementation of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) of 10 June 1999, in its cooperation with the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo, notably with regard to the reform of the judiciary, the promotion and protection of human rights, including the rights of minorities, property rights, population registration, childhood and youth programmes, education policies and the protection and restoration of cultural heritage;

9. *Commends* the role of the Council of Europe in the capacity-building programme of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo, especially with regard to the electoral process in preparation for the Kosovo Assembly elections on 17 November 2001;

10. *Welcomes* the activities of the Council of Europe aimed at fulfilling the role assigned to it, under the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina,[104] with regard to the protection and promotion of human rights, and judicial and prison reform;

11. *Welcomes also* the major contribution of the Council of Europe to the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe, launched at the initiative of the European Union, and to the development of regional projects to support its aims;

12. *Welcomes further* the active role of the Council of Europe in the tripartite meetings between the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Council of Europe;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue exploring, with the Chairman of the Committee of Ministers and the Secretary-General of the Council of Europe, possibilities for further enhancement of cooperation, information exchange and coordination between the United Nations and the Council of Europe;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe in implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/44

Adopted at the 80th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.32, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan

56/44. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 48/2 of 13 October 1993, by which it granted observer status to the Economic Cooperation Organization,

Recalling also the resolutions previously adopted by the General Assembly on cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization, and inviting various specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system and relevant international financial institutions to join in their efforts towards implementation of economic programmes and projects of the Economic Cooperation Organization,

Bearing in mind the progress attained by the Economic Cooperation Organization both in its reorganization endeavours and in launching and implementing various regional development projects and programmes over the past decade,

Welcoming the endeavours of the Economic Cooperation Organization in regard to consolidating its ties with the United Nations system and with relevant international and regional organizations towards the furtherance of its objectives,

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[103] A/CONF.183/9.

[104] See A/50/790-S/1995/999.

Recalling that one of the main objectives of the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization is to promote international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character,

Expressing grave concern at the prevalent drought and its devastating impact on the socio-economic situation of some States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 55/42 of 21 November 2000,[105] and expresses satisfaction at the enhanced pace of mutually beneficial interaction between the two organizations;

2. *Takes note* of the Dushanbe communiqué, issued at the eleventh meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization, held on 4 May 2001, in which the States members reiterated their common aspirations and resolve for a prosperous region of the Economic Cooperation Organization;

3. *Stresses* the importance of cooperation between the United Nations system and the Economic Cooperation Organization to address the challenges and opportunities of globalization in the region of the Economic Cooperation Organization by promoting the integration of States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization, as appropriate, into the world economy, particularly in areas of concern to States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization, inter alia, trade, finance and transfer of technology;

4. *Notes* the holding in Islamabad on 8 November 2000 of a ministerial-level meeting on energy and petroleum, which, inter alia, resulted in a joint statement and the adoption of a plan of action for energy/petroleum cooperation in the region of the Economic Cooperation Organization for 2001–2005;

5. *Notes with satisfaction* the ongoing cooperation between the United Nations Development Programme and the Economic Cooperation Organization through the implementation of the capacity-building project of the secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization, and welcomes the decision of the two institutions to expand the scope of existing cooperation in priority areas of the Economic Cooperation Organization;

6. *Notes* the concern of the Economic Cooperation Organization with respect to agriculture, industry and the health sector in the region, and appreciates the due cognizance taken by the organization of the development of the region, and in this regard welcomes the fact that the Economic Cooperation Organization decided to hold a ministerial meeting on agriculture in Islamabad in October 2001;

7. *Welcomes* the signing in March 2001 of a memorandum of understanding between the Economic Cooperation Organization and the International Trade Centre, expresses its confidence that their mutual cooperation will add impetus to the ongoing trade transactions among States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization, and notes with appreciation the successful implementation of the ongoing project of the Economic Cooperation Organization and the International Trade Centre on expanding intraregional trade;

8. *Notes with satisfaction* the increasing cooperation between the Economic Cooperation Organization and the World Trade Organization, including the fact that the latter has accorded observer status to the former, and the increasing involvement of the Economic Cooperation Organization in relevant forums and ministerial conferences of the World Trade Organization, and appreciates the holding in Bishkek in 2002 of a joint Economic Cooperation Organization and World Trade Organization seminar on regionalism;

9. *Welcomes* the growing cooperation between the Economic Cooperation Organization and relevant international financial institutions in regard to financial assistance extended by them in the fields of transport, trade, energy, agriculture and privatization, particularly by the Islamic Development Bank in the joint projects of the Economic Cooperation Organization, the Islamic Development Bank, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the introduction of multimodal transport operations in the region of the Economic Cooperation Organization and the interconnection and parallel functioning of power systems in the region;

10. *Also welcomes* the efforts of the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization in opening international passenger traffic and the launching of a demonstration container train on the Almaty-Tashkent-Tehran-Istanbul route of the Trans-Asian Railway main line;

11. *Appreciates* the fact that General Assembly resolution 55/181 of 20 December 2000, on the transit environment in landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours, has implications for the whole region of the Economic Cooperation Organization;

12. *Welcomes* the holding in Tehran in June 2001 of a joint Economic Cooperation Organization and United Nations Industrial Development Organization training course on technology management and technology transfer negotiations, which will enhance cooperation among the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization in industry, particularly in the development of small and medium-sized enterprises;

13. *Notes* the increasing problem of the production, transit and abuse of narcotic drugs and their ill effects in the region of the Economic Cooperation Organization, notes with

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[105] A/56/122.

appreciation the commencement of phase II of the joint project of the Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme on the Drug Control Coordination Unit established in the secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization in July 1999, and calls upon the other international and regional organizations to assist, as appropriate, the Economic Cooperation Organization in its efforts against the drug menace in the region;

14. *Appreciates* the cooperation of the Economic Cooperation Organization with the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat in jointly organizing the regional seminar on the fight against supranational organized crime;

15. *Notes with satisfaction* the expansion of cultural ties in the region under the auspices of the Cultural Institute of the Economic Cooperation Organization, and supports the endeavours to promote the rich cultural and literary heritage of the region through the launching of appropriate projects and programmes, with possible assistance from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other relevant entities;

16. *Also notes with satisfaction* the efforts of the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization in the field of science and technology for the development of the region and endeavours in this regard, including the establishment of the Science Foundation of the Economic Cooperation Organization;

17. *Accentuates* the significance of environmental issues, such as air and water pollution, in the region of the Economic Cooperation Organization, and calls upon the relevant United Nations bodies to cooperate, as appropriate, with the Economic Cooperation Organization to implement joint plans and projects to improve the situation in the region;

18. *Invites* the United Nations system, its relevant bodies and the international community to continue to provide technical assistance, as appropriate, to the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization and its secretariat in strengthening their early warning systems, preparedness, capacity for timely response and rehabilitation, with a view to reducing human casualties and mitigating the socio-economic impact of natural disasters;

19. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts of the Economic Cooperation Organization in the implementation of the United Nations programmes for the development of transit transport facilities in the landlocked countries of the region;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization".

RESOLUTION 56/45

Adopted at the 80th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.34 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, France, Gabon, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Hungary, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Monaco, Morocco, Niger, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Suriname, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine, Vanuatu, Viet Nam

56/45. Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 33/18 of 10 November 1978, 50/3 of 16 October 1995, 52/2 of 17 October 1997 and 54/25 of 15 November 1999, as well as its decision 53/453 of 18 December 1998,

Recalling also the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations which encourage the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations through regional cooperation,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[106]

Noting the desire of the two organizations to consolidate, develop and tighten the ties that exist between them in the political, economic, social and cultural fields,

Noting with satisfaction the substantial progress achieved in cooperation between the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies and programmes and the International Organization of la Francophonie,

Convinced that strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie serves the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Considering that the International Organization of la Francophonie brings together a considerable number of States Members of the United Nations, among which it promotes multilateral cooperation in areas of interest to the United Nations,

Noting with appreciation the will shown by the heads of State and Government of countries that use French as a common language at their eighth summit session, held in

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[106] A/56/390.

Moncton, Canada, from 3 to 5 September 1999, to play an active part in resolving the main political and economic problems of the contemporary world and to consolidate the partnership with the United Nations to that end,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[106]

2. *Notes with satisfaction* the positive evolution and development of cooperation between the two organizations;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the International Organization of la Francophonie for their sustained efforts to strengthen cooperation and coordination between the two organizations, thereby serving their mutual interests in the political, economic, social and cultural fields;

4. *Notes with satisfaction* that the International Organization of la Francophonie is participating more frequently in the work of the United Nations, to which it makes a valuable contribution;

5. *Welcomes* the involvement of the countries that use French as a common language, particularly through the International Organization of la Francophonie, in United Nations activities, including the preparation for, conduct of and follow-up to international conferences organized under United Nations auspices;

6. *Emphasizes* the importance of the steps taken by the International Organization of la Francophonie during the past two years to promote dialogue between cultures and civilizations;

7. *Commends* the International Organization of la Francophonie for its efforts in relation to conflict prevention, management and resolution, the promotion of human rights and the strengthening of democracy and the rule of law, as well as its action in favour of the development of multilateral cooperation among countries with French as a common language, particularly in the areas of economic, social and cultural development, and the promotion of new information technologies, and requests United Nations bodies to give it their support;

8. *Also commends* the high-level meetings held periodically between the secretariats of the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie, and advocates the participation of those secretariats in major meetings of the two organizations;

9. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for including the International Organization of la Francophonie in the periodic meetings he holds with the heads of regional organizations, and invites him to continue to do so, taking into account the role played by the International Organization of la Francophonie in conflict prevention and support for democracy and the rule of law;

10. *Recommends* to the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie that they should continue and intensify their consultations with a view to ensuring greater coordination in the areas of conflict prevention, peace-building, support for the rule of law and democracy and the promotion of human rights;

11. *Notes with satisfaction* the strengthening of collaboration between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie in the area of electoral monitoring and assistance, and advocates the strengthening of cooperation between the two organizations in that area;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, acting in cooperation with the Secretary-General of the International Organization of la Francophonie, to encourage the holding of periodic meetings between representatives of the United Nations Secretariat and representatives of the secretariat of the International Organization of la Francophonie in order to promote the exchange of information, coordination of activities and identification of new areas of cooperation;

13. *Invites* the Secretary-General to take the necessary steps, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the International Organization of la Francophonie, to continue to promote cooperation between the two organizations;

14. *Invites* the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations, as well as the regional commissions, including the Economic Commission for Africa, to collaborate to this end with the Secretary-General of the International Organization of la Francophonie by identifying new synergies in favour of development, in particular in the areas of poverty elimination, energy, sustainable development, education, training and the development of new information technologies;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie".

RESOLUTION 56/46

Adopted at the 80th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.35 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Marshall

Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

56/46. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/19 of 8 November 2000, in which it expressed the wish that the cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union be strengthened further,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[107] which takes stock of such cooperation over the last twelve months,

Noting with appreciation the resolutions adopted by the Inter-Parliamentary Union and its activities during the past year in support of the United Nations,

Recalling with satisfaction the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[108] in which Member States resolved to strengthen further cooperation between the United Nations and national parliaments through their world organization, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, in various fields, including peace and security, economic and social development, international law and human rights and democracy and gender issues,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General of 26 June 2001,[109]

Taking into consideration the Cooperation Agreement between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union of 1996,[110] which provides the foundation for current cooperation between the two organizations,

Recalling the unique inter-State character of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

1. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts to explore ways in which a new and strengthened relationship may be established between the General Assembly and its subsidiary organs on the one hand and the Inter-Parliamentary Union on the other, and encourages Member States to continue their consultations with a view to adopting a decision thereon during the fifty-seventh session of the Assembly;

2. *Also welcomes* the efforts made by the Inter-Parliamentary Union to provide for a greater parliamentary contribution and enhanced support to the United Nations, and calls for the cooperation between the two organizations to be consolidated further;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the various aspects of cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union".

RESOLUTION 56/47

Adopted at the 80th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.36 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Indonesia, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Niger, Pakistan, Senegal, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, United Arab Emirates

56/47. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 37/4 of 22 October 1982, 38/4 of 28 October 1983, 39/7 of 8 November 1984, 40/4 of 25 October 1985, 41/3 of 16 October 1986, 42/4 of 15 October 1987, 43/2 of 17 October 1988, 44/8 of 18 October 1989, 45/9 of 25 October 1990, 46/13 of 28 October 1991, 47/18 of 23 November 1992, 48/24 of 24 November 1993, 49/15 of 15 November 1994, 50/17 of 20 November 1995, 51/18 of 14 November 1996, 52/4 of 22 October 1997, 53/16 of 29 October 1998, 54/7 of 25 October 1999 and 55/9 of 30 October 2000,

Recalling also its resolution 3369 (XXX) of 10 October 1975, by which it decided to invite the Organization of the Islamic Conference to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly and of its subsidiary organs in the capacity of observer,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[111]

Taking into account the desire of both organizations to continue to cooperate closely in the political, economic, social, humanitarian, cultural and scientific fields and in their common search for solutions to global problems, such as questions relating to international peace and security, disarmament, self-determination, decolonization, fundamental human rights and economic and social development,

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[107] A/56/449.

[108] See resolution 55/2.

[109] A/55/996.

[110] A/51/402, annex.

[111] A/56/398.

Recalling the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage activities through regional cooperation for the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Noting the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations, its funds and programmes and specialized agencies and the Organization of the Islamic Conference, its subsidiary organs and its specialized and affiliated institutions,

Noting also the encouraging progress made in the ten priority areas of cooperation between the two organizations,

Convinced that the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its organs and institutions contributes to the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Noting with appreciation the determination of both organizations to strengthen further the existing cooperation by developing specific proposals in the designated priority areas of cooperation, as well as in the political field,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General;[111]

2. *Notes with satisfaction* the active participation of the Organization of the Islamic Conference in the work of the United Nations towards the realization of the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations;

3. *Requests* the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference to continue to cooperate in their common search for solutions to global problems, such as questions relating to international peace and security, disarmament, self-determination, decolonization, fundamental human rights, social and economic development and technical cooperation;

4. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference to continue to strengthen cooperation between the two organizations in areas of common concern and to review the ways and means of enhancing the actual mechanisms of such cooperation;

5. *Welcomes with appreciation* the continuing cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference in the field of peacemaking and preventive diplomacy, and notes the close cooperation between the two organizations in continuing the search for a peaceful and lasting solution to the conflict in Afghanistan;

6. *Welcomes* the efforts of the secretariats of the two organizations to strengthen information exchange, coordination and cooperation between them in areas of mutual interest in the political field and their ongoing consultations with a view to developing the modalities of such cooperation;

7. *Also welcomes* the periodic high-level meetings between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, as well as between senior secretariat officials of the two organizations, and encourages their participation in important meetings of the two organizations;

8. *Recommends* that, in accordance with its resolution 50/17, in order to enhance cooperation and for the purpose of review and appraisal of progress, a general meeting of representatives of the secretariats of the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference be held in 2002;

9. *Also recommends* that, in accordance with its resolution 50/17, coordination meetings of focal points of the organizations and agencies of the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its subsidiary organs and specialized and affiliated institutions be held concurrently with the general meeting in 2002;

10. *Encourages* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue to expand their cooperation with the subsidiary organs and specialized and affiliated institutions of the Organization of the Islamic Conference in priority areas of interest to the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

11. *Urges* the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system, especially the lead agencies, to provide increased technical and other forms of assistance to the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its subsidiary organs and specialized and affiliated institutions in order to enhance cooperation;

12. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his continued efforts to strengthen cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its subsidiary organs and specialized and affiliated institutions to serve the mutual interests of the two organizations in the political, economic, social, humanitarian, cultural and scientific fields;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the state of cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference".

RESOLUTION 56/48

Adopted at the 80th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.37 and Add.1, sponsored by: Angola, Chile, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Senegal, Seychelles, Somalia, Zambia

56/48. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[112]

Bearing in mind the decisions and declarations adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-seventh ordinary session, held in Lusaka from 9 to 11 July 2001,[113] in particular decision AHG/Dec.160 (XXXVII) on the establishment of the African Union on the basis of the Constitutive Act and a period of transition from Organization of African Unity and African Economic Community to African Union, to allow for the creation of the organs of the African Union,

Taking note of declaration AHG/Decl.1 (XXXVII), adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-seventh ordinary session, concerning the adoption of the New African Initiative, now called New Partnership for Africa's Development, following the review by the Implementation Committee of Heads of State and Government in Abuja on 23 October 2001 on sustainable development in Africa,

Recalling the provisions of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations and the agreement on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity,[114] as well as all its resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity, including resolutions 54/94 of 8 December 1999 and 55/218 of 21 December 2000,

Taking note of the declarations and decisions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-sixth ordinary session, held in Lomé from 10 to 12 July 2000, in particular declaration AHG/Decl.4 (XXXVI), the Solemn Declaration on the Conference on Security, Stability, Development and Cooperation in Africa,[115]

Emphasizing the importance of the effective, coordinated and integrated implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[116] and welcoming in this regard the commitments of Member States to respond to the special needs of Africa,

Taking note of the Organization of African Unity Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-fifth ordinary session, held in Algiers from 12 to 14 July 1999,[117] and the communiqué issued by the Central Organ of the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution of the Organization of African Unity, at its fifth extraordinary session, at the ministerial level, held in New York on 11 November 2001,[118]

Taking note also of the declaration of the extraordinary summit meeting of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity on HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and other related infectious diseases, held in Abuja from 24 to 27 April 2001,[119]

Acknowledging the need for continued and closer cooperation between the United Nations and its specialized agencies and the Organization of African Unity and its specialized agencies in the peace and security, political, economic, social, technical, cultural and administrative fields,

Acknowledging also the contribution of the United Nations Liaison Office in strengthening coordination and cooperation between the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations since its establishment in Addis Ababa in April 1998 and the need for its consolidation in order to enhance its performance,

Emphasizing the need to implement the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council of 18 July 2001 on the role of the United Nations in support of the efforts of African countries to achieve sustainable development,[120]

Emphasizing also the need to implement urgently its resolution S-26/2 of 27 June 2001 containing the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, adopted at its special session on HIV/AIDS, and acknowledging in this respect the commitments of Member States to address the special needs of Africa,

Noting the efforts being made by the Organization of African Unity and its specialized agencies and member States in the area of economic integration, and the need to accelerate the process of implementation of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community,[121]

Noting also the progress made by the Organization of African Unity in developing the capacity of its Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution, and acknowledging in this regard the assistance of the United Nations and the international community,

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[112] A/56/489.

[113] See A/56/457, annex I.

[114] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 548, No. 614 (Part II).

[115] See A/55/286, annex II.

[116] See resolution 55/2.

[117] See A/54/424, annex II, AHG/Dec.132 (XXXV).

[118] See S/2001/1061, annex.

[119] OAU/SPS/ABUJA/3.

[120] A/56/3, chap. III, para. 29. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 3.*

[121] A/46/651, annex.

Stressing the urgent need to address the plight of refugees and internally displaced persons in Africa, and noting in this context the efforts made to implement the recommendations of the Organization of African Unity Ministerial Meeting on Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in Africa, held in Khartoum on 13 and 14 December 1998,[122] as well as the endorsement by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its seventy-second session of the Comprehensive Implementation Plan, adopted at the Special Meeting of Governmental and Non-Governmental Technical Experts organized by the Organization of African Unity and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Conakry from 27 to 29 March 2000,[123]

Recognizing the importance of developing and maintaining a culture of peace, tolerance and harmonious relationships based on the promotion of economic development, democratic principles, good governance, the rule of law, human rights, social justice and international cooperation,

Recognizing also the need to improve coordination and harmonization among the various United Nations initiatives established to assist the development of Africa,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General;[112]

2. *Welcomes* the cooperation existing between the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations and, in this respect, the continuing participation in and constructive contribution of the Organization of African Unity and its specialized agencies to the work of the United Nations, its organs and specialized agencies, and calls upon the two organizations to enhance the involvement of the Organization of African Unity in all United Nations activities concerning Africa;

3. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General closely to involve the Organization of African Unity and its specialized agencies in the implementation of the commitments contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[116] especially those that relate to meeting the special needs of Africa;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, together with the Organization of African Unity, to take the necessary measures for the speedy and effective implementation of the recommendations of the biennial meeting of the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations, held in Addis Ababa on 10 and 11 April 2000, in particular those priority areas specified in section III of the report of the Secretary-General submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;[124]

5. *Stresses* the need for closer cooperation and coordination between the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations in the area of peace and security, particularly with regard to conflict prevention, peacekeeping, peace-making, post-conflict reconstruction and peace-building and support for the democratization processes and good governance;

6. *Requests* the United Nations to extend full cooperation and support to the Organization of African Unity in the implementation of the Solemn Declaration on the Conference on Security, Stability, Development and Cooperation in Africa,[115] an initiative which creates a synergy between the various activities currently undertaken by the Organization of African Unity and provides a policy development forum for the elaboration and advancement of common values within the policy organs of the Organization of African Unity;

7. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to strengthen the capacity of the United Nations Liaison Office with the Organization of African Unity;

8. *Requests* the United Nations, while acknowledging its primary role in the promotion of international peace and security, to intensify its assistance to the Organization of African Unity in strengthening the institutional and operational capacity of its Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution, in particular in the following areas:

(*a*) Development of its early warning system, including the Situation Room of the Conflict Management Centre;

(*b*) Technical assistance and training of civilian and military personnel, including a staff exchange programme;

(*c*) Regular and continued exchange and coordination of information, including between the early warning systems of the two organizations;

(*d*) Provision of assistance to field missions of the Organization of African Unity in its various member States, in particular, in the area of communication and other related logistical support;

(*e*) Mobilization of financial support, including through the trust funds of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity;

9. *Urges* the United Nations to encourage donor countries, in consultation with the Organization of African Unity, to contribute to adequate funding, training and logistical support for African countries in their efforts to enhance their peacekeeping capabilities, with a view to enabling those countries to participate actively in peacekeeping operations within the framework of the United Nations;

10. *Also urges* the United Nations to contribute, where appropriate, to the enhancement of the capacity of the Organization of African Unity to deploy peace support missions;

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[122] A/54/682, annex II.

[123] A/55/286, annex I, CM/Dec. 531 (LXXII), para. 8.

[124] See A/55/498.

11. *Requests* the agencies of the United Nations system working in Africa to include in their programmes at the national, subregional and regional levels activities to support African countries in their efforts to enhance regional economic cooperation and integration;

12. *Stresses* the urgent need for the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity to develop close cooperation and concrete programmes, aimed at addressing the problems posed by the proliferation of small arms and light weapons and anti-personnel mines, within the framework of the relevant declarations and resolutions adopted by the two organizations, including the Plan of Action on Landmines, adopted at the First Continental Conference of African Experts on Landmines, held at Kempton Park, South Africa, from 19 to 21 May 1997, the Bamako Declaration of 1 December 2000 on an African Common Position on the Illicit Proliferation, Circulation and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons[125] and the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in New York from 9 to 20 July 2001;[126]

13. *Welcomes* the intention of the United Nations, set out in section I of the report of the Secretary-General,[112] to review the programme of cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity in order to address the needs of the African Union during the transitional period;

14. *Calls upon* United Nations agencies to continue to cooperate with the Organization of African Unity in order to facilitate the transition from the Organization of African Unity to the African Union, to intensify the coordination of their regional programmes in Africa to ensure the effective harmonization of their programmes with those of the African regional and subregional economic organizations and to contribute to creating a positive environment for economic development and investment;

15. *Welcomes* the leadership efforts of African leaders to develop an African-owned and African-led framework for action towards the sustainable development of the African continent, and calls upon the United Nations system and the international community to support the New Partnership for Africa's Development[119] and the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council,[120] and the enhancement of the capacity of African countries to take advantage of the opportunities offered by globalization and overcome the challenges it poses, as a means of ensuring sustained economic growth and sustainable development;

16. *Encourages* the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity to collaborate closely in the global fight against terrorism and the implementation of the Organization of African Unity Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism[117] and the communiqué issued by the Central Organ of the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution;[118]

17. *Calls upon* the United Nations to support actively the efforts of the Organization of African Unity in urging the donor community and, where appropriate, multilateral institutions to strive to meet the agreed target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance, to implement fully, speedily and effectively the enhanced programme of debt relief for the heavily indebted poor countries, and to achieve the goal of securing debt relief in a comprehensive and effective manner in favour of African countries through various national and international measures designed to make their debt sustainable in the long term;

18. *Calls upon* all Member States and regional and international organizations, in particular those of the United Nations system, as well as non-governmental organizations, to provide additional assistance to the Organization of African Unity and those Governments in Africa concerned with the problems of refugees, returnees and displaced persons;

19. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system to ensure the effective and equitable representation of African men and women at senior and policy levels at their respective headquarters and in their regional fields of operation;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/49

Adopted at the 80th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2001, by a recorded vote of 134 to 1, with 2 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.38 and Add.1, sponsored by Indonesia and Suriname

* *In favour:* Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of

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[125] See A/CONF.192/PC/23.

[126] See A/CONF.192/15, para. 24.

Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: United States of America

Abstaining: India, Pakistan

56/49. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization

The General Assembly,

Taking note of the note by the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization,[127]

Taking note also of the report of the Executive Secretary of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization,[128]

Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization".

RESOLUTION 56/73

Adopted at the 82nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2001, by a recorded vote of 147 to 2, with 4 abstentions,* on the basis of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (A/56/23)

* *In favour:* Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: France, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of)

56/73. Dissemination of information on decolonization

The General Assembly,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the dissemination of information on decolonization and publicity for the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization,[129]

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and other resolutions and decisions of the United Nations concerning the dissemination of information on decolonization, in particular General Assembly resolution 55/145 of 8 December 2000,

Recognizing the need for flexible, practical and innovative approaches towards reviewing the options of self-determination for the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories with a view to achieving the goals of the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,

Reiterating the importance of dissemination of information as an instrument for furthering the aims of the Declaration, and mindful of the role of world public opinion in effectively assisting the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories to achieve self-determination,

Recognizing the role played by the administering Powers in transmitting information to the Secretary-General in accordance with the terms of Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations,

Aware of the role of non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization,

1. *Approves* the activities in the field of dissemination of information on decolonization undertaken by the Department of Public Information and the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat;

2. *Considers it important* to continue its efforts to ensure the widest possible dissemination of information on decolonization, with particular emphasis on the options of self-determination available for the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories;

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[127] A/56/317.

[128] See A/56/317; see also *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Plenary Meetings*, 77th meeting (A/56/PV.77), and corrigendum.

[129] A/56/23 (Part II), chap. III. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 23.*

3. *Requests* the Department of Political Affairs and the Department of Public Information to take into account the suggestions of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue their efforts to take measures through all the media available, including publications, radio and television, as well as the Internet, to give publicity to the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization and, inter alia:

(*a*) To continue to collect, prepare and disseminate, particularly to the Territories, basic material on the issue of self-determination of the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories;

(*b*) To seek the full cooperation of the administering Powers in the discharge of the tasks referred to above;

(*c*) To maintain a working relationship with the appropriate regional and intergovernmental organizations, particularly in the Pacific and Caribbean regions, by holding periodic consultations and exchanging information;

(*d*) To encourage the involvement of non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization;

(*e*) To report to the Special Committee on measures taken in the implementation of the present resolution;

4. *Requests* all States, including the administering Powers, to continue to extend their cooperation in the dissemination of information referred to in paragraph 2 above;

5. *Requests* the Special Committee to follow the implementation of the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session.

RESOLUTION 56/74

Adopted at the 82nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2001, by a recorded vote of 132 to 2, with 21 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.40, sponsored by: Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Saint Lucia, Sierra Leone

* *In favour:* Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India , Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama , Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Belgium, Bulgaria, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Netherlands, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey

56/74. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

The General Assembly,

Having examined the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[130]

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all its subsequent resolutions concerning the implementation of the Declaration, most recently resolution 55/147 of 8 December 2000, as well as the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Bearing in mind the declaration of the period 2001–2010 as the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and the need to examine ways to ascertain the wishes of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories on the basis of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization,

Recognizing that the eradication of colonialism has been one of the priorities of the Organization and continues to be one of its priorities for the decade that began in 2001,

Reconfirming the need to take measures to eliminate colonialism before 2010, as called for in its resolution 55/146 of 8 December 2000,

Reiterating its conviction of the need for the eradication of colonialism, as well as of racial discrimination and violations of basic human rights,

Noting with satisfaction the achievements of the Special Committee in contributing to the effective and complete implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization,

Stressing the importance of the participation of the administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee,

Noting with concern that the non-participation of certain administering Powers has adversely affected the implementation of the mandate and work of the Special Committee,

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[130] A/56/23 (Parts I-III). For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 23.*

Noting with satisfaction the cooperation and active participation of some administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee,

Noting that the other administering Powers have now agreed to work informally with the Special Committee,

Taking note of the consultations and agreements between the parties concerned in some Non-Self-Governing Territories and the action taken by the Secretary-General in relation to certain Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Aware of the pressing need of newly independent and emerging States for assistance from the United Nations and its system of organizations in the economic, social and other fields,

Aware also of the pressing need of many of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories, including in particular small island Territories, for economic, social and other assistance from the United Nations and the organizations of its system,

Taking special note of the fact that the Special Committee held a Caribbean regional seminar to review the situation in the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories, particularly their political evolution towards self-determination for the year 2001 and beyond, in Havana from 23 to 25 May 2001,[131]

1. *Reaffirms* its resolution 1514 (XV) and all other resolutions and decisions on decolonization, including its resolution 55/146, in which it declares the period 2001–2010 the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and calls upon the administering Powers, in accordance with those resolutions, to take all necessary steps to enable the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories concerned to exercise fully as soon as possible their right to self-determination, including independence;

2. *Reaffirms once again* that the existence of colonialism in any form or manifestation, including economic exploitation, is incompatible with the Charter of the United Nations, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;[132]

3. *Reaffirms its determination* to continue to take all steps necessary to bring about the complete and speedy eradication of colonialism and the faithful observance by all States of the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

4. *Affirms once again its support* for the aspirations of the peoples under colonial rule to exercise their right to self-determination, including independence, in accordance with relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

5. *Approves* the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples covering its work during 2001, including the programme of work envisaged for 2002;[133]

6. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to cooperate fully with the Special Committee to finalize before the end of 2002 a constructive programme of work on a case-by-case basis for the Non-Self-Governing Territories to facilitate the implementation of the mandate of the Special Committee and the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

7. *Welcomes* the ongoing consultations between the Special Committee and New Zealand, as administering Power for Tokelau, with the participation of representatives of the people of Tokelau, with a view to formulating a programme of work on the question of Tokelau;

8. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to seek suitable means for the immediate and full implementation of the Declaration and to carry out those actions approved by the General Assembly regarding the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism and the Second International Decade in all Territories that have not yet exercised their right to self-determination, including independence, and in particular:

(*a*) To formulate specific proposals to bring about an end to colonialism and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

(*b*) To continue to examine the implementation by Member States of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization;

(*c*) To continue to pay special attention to the small Territories, including through the dispatch of visiting missions, and to recommend to the General Assembly the most suitable steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise their right to self-determination, including independence;

(*d*) To finalize before the end of 2002 a constructive programme of work on a case-by-case basis for the Non-Self-Governing Territories to facilitate the implementation of the mandate of the Special Committee and the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

(*e*) To take all necessary steps to enlist worldwide support among Governments, as well as national and international organizations, for the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration and the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

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[131] See A/56/23 (Part I), chap. II, annex. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 23.*

[132] Resolution 217 A (III).

[133] See A/56/23 (Part I), chap. I, sect. J. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 23.*

(*f*) To conduct seminars, as appropriate, for the purpose of receiving and disseminating information on the work of the Special Committee, and to facilitate participation by the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in those seminars;

(*g*) To observe annually the Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories;[134]

9. *Calls upon* all States, in particular the administering Powers, as well as the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to give effect within their respective spheres of competence to the recommendations of the Special Committee for the implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

10. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to ensure that the economic activities in the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration do not adversely affect the interests of the peoples but instead promote development, and to assist them in the exercise of their right to self-determination;

11. *Urges* the administering Powers concerned to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable rights of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to their natural resources, including land, and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources, and requests the administering Powers to take all necessary steps to protect the property rights of the peoples of those Territories;

12. *Reiterates* that military activities and arrangements by administering Powers in the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration should not run counter to the rights and interests of the peoples of the Territories concerned, especially their right to self-determination, including independence, calls upon the administering Powers concerned to terminate such activities and to eliminate the remaining military bases in compliance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and also calls upon the administering Powers to promote alternative sources of livelihood for the peoples of the Territories concerned;

13. *Urges* all States, directly and through their action in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to provide moral and material assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and requests that the administering Powers take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economies of those Territories;

14. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations visiting missions to the Territories are an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Territories, as well as the wishes and aspirations of their inhabitants, and calls upon the administering Powers to continue to cooperate with the Special Committee in the discharge of its mandate and to facilitate visiting missions to the Territories;

15. *Calls upon* the administering Powers that have not participated formally in the work of the Special Committee to do so at its session in 2002;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to provide economic, social and other assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to continue to do so, as appropriate, after they exercise their right to self-determination, including independence;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Committee with the facilities and services required for the implementation of the present resolution, as well as of the other resolutions and decisions on decolonization adopted by the General Assembly and the Special Committee.

RESOLUTION 56/75

Adopted at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 11 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.47 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

56/75. Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal

The General Assembly,

Recalling its decision to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal" and to consider this item every two years in advance of each Summer and Winter Olympic Games,

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[134] See resolution 2911 (XXVII).

Recalling also its resolution 48/11 of 25 October 1993, which, inter alia, revived the ancient Greek tradition of *ekecheiria* or "Olympic Truce" with the aim of ensuring the safe passage and participation of athletes and others at the Games,

Taking into account the inclusion in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[135] of an appeal for the observance of the Olympic Truce now and in the future and support for the International Olympic Committee in its efforts to promote peace and human understanding through sport and the Olympic ideal,

Recognizing that the goal of the Olympic movement is to build a peaceful and better world by educating the youth of the world through sport, practised without discrimination of any kind and in the Olympic spirit, which requires mutual understanding, promoted by friendship, solidarity and fair play,

Recognizing also the valuable contribution that the appeal launched by the International Olympic Committee for an Olympic Truce, with which the National Olympic Committees of the Member States are associated, could make towards advancing the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Noting with satisfaction the flying of the United Nations flag at all competition sites of the Olympic Games, and the joint endeavours of the International Olympic Committee and the United Nations system in fields such as development, humanitarian assistance, health promotion, education, women, the eradication of poverty, the fight against the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS), drug abuse and juvenile delinquency,

Noting also with satisfaction the organization by the International Olympic Committee, with the cooperation of the Secretary-General, of round tables on sport for a culture of peace on different continents for countries that have been or are still in a conflict situation, in the framework of the International Year for the Culture of Peace and in accordance with General Assembly resolution 52/13 of 20 November 1997,

Welcoming the setting up by the International Olympic Committee, with the adherence of Member States and intergovernmental organizations, of a World Anti-Doping Agency,

1. *Requests* Member States to observe, within the framework of the Charter of the United Nations, the Olympic Truce during the XIX Olympic Winter Games to be held in Salt Lake City, United States of America, from 8 to 24 February 2002, by ensuring the safe passage and participation of athletes at the Games;

2. *Welcomes* the decision of the International Olympic Committee to mobilize all international sports organizations and that of the National Olympic Committees of the Member States to undertake concrete action at the local, national, regional and world levels to promote and strengthen a culture of peace based on the spirit of the Olympic Truce;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to promote the observance of the Olympic Truce among Member States, drawing the attention of world public opinion to the contribution such a truce would make to the promotion of international understanding, peace and goodwill, and to cooperate with the International Olympic Committee in the realization of this objective;

4. *Welcomes* the participation of the President in office of the General Assembly and also the representatives of the Secretary-General and the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in the International Olympic Truce Foundation;

5. *Urges* the International Olympic Committee to devise a special programme of assistance for the development of physical education and sport for countries affected by conflicts and poverty;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal" and to consider this item before the Games of the XXVIII Olympiad, to be held in Athens in 2004.

RESOLUTION 56/76

Adopted at the 84th plenary meeting, on 11 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.33 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

56/76. Towards global partnerships

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the central role of the United Nations, in particular the General Assembly, in the promotion of partnerships in the context of globalization,

Underlining the intergovernmental nature of the United Nations,

Reaffirming its resolve to create an environment, at the national and global levels alike, that is conducive to development and the elimination of poverty,

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[135] See resolution 55/2.

Recalling the objectives formulated in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[136] particularly in regard to developing partnerships through the provision of greater opportunities to the private sector, non-governmental organizations and civil society in general so as to enable them to contribute to the realization of the goals and programmes of the Organization, in particular in the pursuit of development and the eradication of poverty,

Stressing that efforts to meet the challenges of globalization could benefit from enhanced cooperation between the United Nations and all relevant partners, in particular the private sector, in order to ensure that globalization becomes a positive force for all,

Encouraging the private sector to accept and implement the principle of good corporate citizenship, that is, bringing sustainable development principles, which are based on the three pillars of economic development, social development and environmental protection, to bear on a conduct and policy that are premised on profit incentives, in conformity with national laws and regulations, and in this context drawing the attention of Member States to multi-stakeholder initiatives, in particular, the Global Compact Initiative of the Secretary-General, the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunizations, the multi-stakeholder dialogue process of the Commission on Sustainable Development and the Information and Communication Technologies Task Force,

Recalling the central role and responsibility of Governments in national and international policy-making,

Underlining the fact that cooperation between the United Nations and all relevant partners, in particular the private sector, shall serve the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations and make concrete contributions to the realization of the goals contained in the Millennium Declaration and in the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits and their reviews, in particular in the area of development and the eradication of poverty, and shall be undertaken in a manner that maintains the integrity, impartiality and independence of the Organization,

Emphasizing that all relevant partners, in particular the private sector, can contribute in several ways to addressing the obstacles confronted by developing countries in mobilizing the resources needed to finance their sustainable development, and to the realization of the development goals of the United Nations through, inter alia, financial resources, access to technology, management expertise, and support for programmes, including through the reduced pricing of drugs, where appropriate, for the prevention, care and treatment of the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) and other diseases,

Underlining the fact that the resources contributed by the relevant partners, in particular the private sector, should be a complement to, not a substitute for, governmental resources,

Taking into account ideas expressed in the report of the Secretary-General of 27 March 2000, entitled "We the peoples: the role of the United Nations in the twenty-first century",[137] with regard to enhanced cooperation with the private sector,

Recalling its resolution 55/215 of 21 December 2000,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[138] and its numerous valuable examples of cooperation between the United Nations and all relevant partners, in particular the private sector, which have contributed and should continue to contribute to the realization of the goals and programmes of the Organization, in particular in the pursuit of development and the eradication of poverty;

2. *Stresses* that the principles and approaches that govern such partnerships and arrangements should be built on the firm foundation of United Nations purposes and principles, as set out in the Charter, and invites the United Nations system to continue to adhere to a common approach to partnership which, without imposing undue rigidity in partnership agreements, includes the following principles: common purpose, transparency, bestowing no unfair advantages upon any partner of the United Nations, mutual benefit and mutual respect, accountability, respect for the modalities of the United Nations, striving for balanced representation of relevant partners from developed and developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and not compromising the independence and neutrality of the United Nations system in general and the agencies in particular;

3. *Stresses also* the need for international cooperation to strengthen the participation of enterprises, especially small and medium-sized enterprises, business associations, foundations and non-governmental organizations from developing countries and countries with economies in transition, in particular in partnerships with the United Nations system;

4. *Stresses further* the need for Member States further to discuss partnerships and to consider, in appropriate intergovernmental consultations, ways and means to enhance cooperation between the United Nations and all relevant partners, inter alia, from the developing countries, to give them greater opportunities to contribute to the realization of the goals and programmes of the Organization;

5. *Invites* the Secretary-General to continue to seek the views of relevant partners, in particular the private sector, on how to enhance their cooperation with the United Nations;

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[136] Ibid.

[137] A/54/2000.

[138] A/56/323.

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution, containing proposals of modalities for enhanced cooperation between the United Nations and all relevant partners, in particular the private sector, for consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

7. *Decides* to include in the agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Towards global partnerships".

RESOLUTION 56/94

Adopted at the 86th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2001, by a recorded vote of 150 to 1, with 2 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.10 and Add.1, sponsored by: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Yugoslavia

* *In favour:* Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Abstaining: Côte d'Ivoire, Lao People's Democratic Republic

56/94. Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency

The General Assembly,

Having received the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency for the year 2000,[139]

Taking note of the statement of the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency,[140] in which he provided additional information on the main developments in the activities of the Agency during 2001,

Recognizing the importance of the work of the Agency in promoting the further application of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes as envisaged in the statute of the Agency and in accordance with the inalienable right of States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[141] and other relevant internationally legally binding agreements that have concluded relevant safeguards agreements with the Agency to develop research, production and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination and in conformity with articles I and II and other relevant articles of the Treaty, and with the objectives and purposes thereof,

Conscious of the importance of the safeguards system of the Agency and of the importance of the work of the Agency in the implementation of the safeguards provisions of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and other international treaties, conventions and agreements designed to achieve similar objectives, as well as in ensuring, as far as it is able, that the assistance provided by the Agency or at its request or under its supervision or control is not used in such a way as to further any military purpose, as stated in article II of its statute,

Reaffirming that the Agency is the competent authority responsible for verifying and assuring, in accordance with the statute and the safeguards system of the Agency, compliance with its safeguards agreements with States parties undertaken in fulfilment of their obligations under article III, paragraph 1, of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, with a view to preventing diversion of nuclear energy from peaceful uses to nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, and also reaffirming that nothing should be done to undermine the authority of the Agency in this regard and that States parties that have concerns regarding non-compliance with the safeguards agreement of the Treaty by the States parties should direct such concerns, along with supporting evidence and information, to the Agency to consider, investigate, draw conclusions and decide on necessary actions in accordance with its mandate,

Stressing the need for the highest standards of safety in the design and operation of nuclear installations and in peaceful nuclear activities so as to minimize risks to life, health and the environment, and recognizing that a good safety record relies on good technology, good regulatory practices and well-qualified and trained staff, as well as international cooperation,

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[139] International Atomic Energy Agency, *The Annual Report for 2000* (Austria, July 2001) (GC(45)/4); transmitted to the members of the General Assembly by a note by the Secretary-General (A/56/313).

[140] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Plenary Meetings*, 30th meeting (A/56/PV.30), and corrigendum.

[141] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

Noting that a demonstrated global record of safety is a key element for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and that continuous efforts are necessary to ensure that the human and technical elements of safety are maintained at the optimal level, and also noting that, although safety is a national responsibility, international cooperation on safety-related matters is indispensable,

Considering that an expansion of technical cooperation activities relating to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy will contribute to the well-being of the peoples of the world, recognizing the special needs of the developing countries for technical assistance from the Agency and the importance of funding in order to benefit effectively from the transfer and application of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes as well as from the contribution of nuclear energy to their economic development, and desiring that the resources of the Agency for technical cooperation activities be assured, predictable and sufficient to meet the objectives mandated in article II of its statute,

Conscious that the work done by the Agency in the field of nuclear sciences and applications in the non-power sector contributes to sustainable development, especially with programmes aimed at enhancing agricultural productivity and food security, improving human health, increasing the availability of drinking water supplies and protecting the terrestrial and marine environment,

Recognizing the importance of the work of the Agency on nuclear power, the fuel cycle and nuclear science, nuclear techniques for development and environmental protection and nuclear safety and protection against radiation, including its work directed towards assisting developing countries in all these fields,

Welcoming the convening of the fourth Scientific Forum, on the theme "Serving human needs: nuclear technology for sustainable development", during the forty-fifth regular session of the General Conference of the Agency,

Taking note of the report of the Director General to the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency on the implementation of Security Council resolutions relating to Iraq,[142] of his reports to the Security Council of 10 December 1999[143] and 11 October 2000,[144] of 9 January,[145] 12 February,[146] 6 April[147] and 5 October 2001,[148] and of resolution GC(45)/RES/17 of 21 September 2001 of the General Conference,[149]

Taking note also of resolution GC(45)/RES/16 in connection with the implementation of the Agreement between the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the International Atomic Energy Agency for the application of safeguards in connection with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[150] the statements by the President of the Security Council of 31 March,[151] 30 May[152] and 4 November 1994[153] and the authorization of the Board of Governors, on 11 November 1994, to the Director General, to carry out all the tasks requested of the Agency in the statement by the President of the Security Council of 4 November 1994, noting recent political developments in north-east Asia, and expressing the hope that they will open the way to progress towards full implementation of the relevant agreements,

Taking note further of resolutions GC(45)/RES/10A on measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation and waste safety, GC(45)/RES/10B on transport safety, GC(45)/RES/10C on education and training, GC(45)/RES/11 on the strengthening of the technical cooperation activities of the Agency, GC(45)/RES/12A on the plan for producing potable water economically using small and medium-sized nuclear reactors, GC(45)/RES/12B on the use of isotope hydrology for water resources management, GC(45)/RES/12C on servicing immediate human needs, GC(45)/RES/12D on support to the Pan African Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis Eradication Campaign of the Organization of African Unity, GC(45)/RES/12E on drought in Central America, GC(45)/RES/12F on Agency activities in the development of innovative nuclear technology, GC(45)/RES/13 on strengthening the effectiveness and improving the efficiency of the safeguards system and the application of the Model Additional Protocol, GC(45)/RES/14A on measures against illicit trafficking in nuclear materials and other radioactive materials, GC(45)/RES/14B on the physical protection of nuclear material and nuclear facilities and GC(45)/RES/18 on the application of Agency safeguards in the Middle East, adopted on 21 September 2001 by the General Conference of the Agency at its forty-fifth regular session,

Taking note of resolution GC(45)/RES/15A on the staffing of the secretariat of the Agency, in which the General

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[142] GC(45)/18.

[143] See S/2000/120.

[144] See S/2000/983.

[145] See S/2001/26.

[146] See S/2001/129.

[147] See S/2001/337.

[148] See S/2001/945.

[149] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Forty-fifth Regular Session, 17–21 September 2001* (GC(45)/RES/DEC/(2001)).

[150] International Atomic Energy Agency, INFCIRC/403.

[151] S/PRST/1994/13; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1994*.

[152] S/PRST/1994/28; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1994*.

[153] S/PRST/1994/64; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1994*.

Conference called on developing and under-represented member States to encourage well-qualified candidates to apply for vacant posts in the Agency, and considering the related resolution GC(45)/RES/15B on women in the secretariat, in which the General Conference called on the Director General to make every effort to rectify the present gender imbalance,

Recalling resolution GC(43)/RES/19 on the amendment to article VI of the statute and the statement by the President of the forty-third regular session of the General Conference of the Agency with respect to article VI, adopted on 1 October 1999 by the General Conference,

Taking note of the statement by the President of the forty-fifth regular session of the General Conference of the Agency, that:

> "During the Conference, widespread condolences were expressed to the victims and their families as well as to the Government of the United States of America for the terrorist attacks that took place on 11 September 2001 in New York, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania. The delegates were unequivocal in their condemnation of these terrorists acts. As called for in General Assembly resolution 56/1 and Security Council resolution 1368 (2001), the urgent need to work together to bring to justice the perpetrators, organizers and sponsors of these terrorist attacks and to hold accountable those responsible for aiding, supporting or harbouring the perpetrators, organizers and sponsors of these acts was supported. With particular regard to the Agency's mandate, the Conference expressed its concern about the possible impact of terrorism on the security of nuclear material and other radioactive materials. In this regard, the Conference requested the Director General to review thoroughly the activities and programmes of the Agency with a view to strengthening the Agency work relevant to preventing acts of terrorism involving nuclear materials and other radioactive materials. It further urged all member States to cooperate fully with the Director General and to support the Agency's efforts in this regard",

Taking note also of the statement by the President of the forty-fifth regular session of the General Conference of the Agency, which was endorsed by the General Conference at its tenth plenary meeting and issued under the item concerning Israeli nuclear capabilities and threat, that:

> "The General Conference recalls the statement by the President of the thirty-sixth session in 1992 concerning the item entitled 'Israeli nuclear capabilities and threat'. That statement considered it desirable not to consider that item at the thirty-seventh session. The General Conference also recalls the statement by the President of the forty-third session, in 1999, concerning the same agenda item. At the forty-fourth and forty-fifth sessions, the item was, at the request of certain member States, included again in the agenda. The item was discussed. The President notes that certain member States intend to include the item in the provisional agenda of the forty-sixth regular session of the General Conference",

Noting with appreciation that the General Conference, in resolution GC(45)/RES/3, approved the appointment of Mr. Mohamed ElBaradei as the Director General until 30 November 2005,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency;[139]

2. *Affirms its confidence* in the role of the Agency in the application of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes;

3. *Encourages* all States members of the Agency that have not yet done so to ratify the amendment to article VI of the statute of the Agency, recalling the adoption by the General Conference of the Agency of resolution GC(43)/RES/19 on the amendment to article VI of the statute and the accompanying statement by the President of the forty-third regular session of the General Conference;

4. *Also encourages* all States members of the Agency that have not yet done so to ratify the amendment of article XIV.A of the statute of the Agency, recalling the adoption by the General Conference of the Agency of resolution GC(43)/RES/8 on the amendment of article XIV.A of the statute, which will provide for biennial budgeting by the Agency;

5. *Consistent* with the respective safeguards undertakings of member States and bearing in mind the importance of achieving the universal application of the safeguards system of the Agency, urges all States which have yet to bring into force comprehensive safeguards agreements to do so as soon as possible, affirms that measures to strengthen the effectiveness and improve the efficiency of the safeguards system with a view to detecting undeclared nuclear material and activities must be implemented rapidly and universally by all concerned States and other parties in compliance with their respective international commitments, stresses the importance of the safeguards system of the Agency, including comprehensive safeguards agreements and the Model Additional Protocol, which are among the essential elements of the system, requests all concerned States and other parties to safeguards agreements which have not yet done so promptly to sign additional protocols, requests the States and other parties to safeguards agreements having signed additional protocols to take the necessary measures to bring them into force as soon as their national legislation allows, and recommends that the Director General, the Board of Governors and member States continue to consider implementing the elements of the plan of action outlined in resolution GC(44)/RES/19, as appropriate and subject to available resources, with the aim of facilitating the entry into force of safeguards agreements and additional protocols and review the progress in this regard, and notes the important work being undertaken by the Agency, on an ongoing

priority basis, in the conceptualization and development of integrated and cost-effective safeguards;

6. *Urges* all States to strive for effective and harmonious international cooperation in carrying out the work of the Agency, pursuant to its statute, in promoting the use of nuclear energy and the application of the necessary measures to strengthen further the safety of nuclear installations and to minimize risks to life, health and the environment, in strengthening technical assistance and cooperation for developing countries and in ensuring the effectiveness and efficiency of the safeguards system of the Agency;

7. *Recalls* resolution GC(45)/RES/12F on the activities of the Agency in the development of innovative nuclear technology, emphasizes the unique role that the Agency can play in developing user requirements and in addressing safeguards, safety and environmental questions for innovative reactors and their fuel cycles, within available extrabudgetary resources, and stresses the need for international collaboration in the development of innovative nuclear technology;

8. *Stresses* the need, in conformity with the statute of the Agency, to continue to pursue activities in the areas of nuclear science, technology and applications for meeting the basic sustainable development needs of member States, and also stresses the need to strengthen technical cooperation activities, including the provision of sufficient resources, and to enhance continually the effectiveness and efficiency of the programmes;

9. *Recalls* resolution GC(45)/RES/11 on the strengthening of the technical cooperation activities of the Agency, welcomes the measures and decisions taken by the Agency to strengthen and fund its technical cooperation activities, which should contribute to achieving sustainable development in developing countries, and calls upon States to cooperate in contributing to and in implementing the measures and decisions pursuant thereto;

10. *Reaffirms* the importance of all the measures contained in resolution GC(45)/RES/18 on the application of Agency safeguards in the Middle East, and calls upon all States in the region to implement all the provisions contained therein, including the application of full-scope Agency safeguards to all their nuclear activities, adherence to international non-proliferation regimes and the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region;

11. *Commends* the Director General and the secretariat of the Agency for their continuing, impartial efforts to implement the safeguards agreement still in force between the Agency and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, recognizes the important role of the Agency in monitoring the freeze of nuclear facilities in that country as requested by the Security Council, notes with continuing concern that, although the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is a party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the Agency continues to be unable to verify the accuracy and completeness of the initial declaration of nuclear material it made and is therefore unable to conclude that there has been no diversion of nuclear material in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, expresses deep concern about the continuing non-compliance of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea with the safeguards agreement between that country and the Agency, again urges the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to comply fully with its safeguards agreement, including all steps the Agency deems necessary to preserve all information relevant to verifying the accuracy and completeness of its initial declaration, and strongly encourages the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to respond positively and at an early date to the detailed proposal of the Agency for the first concrete steps needed for the implementation of the generic requirements for the verification of the accuracy and completeness of its initial declaration;

12. *Also commends* the Director General of the Agency and his staff for their strenuous efforts to implement Security Council resolutions 687 (1991) of 3 April 1991, 707 (1991) of 15 August 1991, 715 (1991) of 11 October 1991, 1051 (1996) of 27 March 1996, 1060 (1996) of 12 June 1996, 1115 (1997) of 21 June 1997, 1154 (1998) of 2 March 1998, 1194 (1998) of 9 September 1998, 1205 (1998) of 5 November 1998 and 1284 (1999) of 17 December 1999, and calls upon Iraq to implement in full all relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolution 1284 (1999), and in this regard to cooperate fully with the Agency and to provide the necessary access to enable it to carry out its mandate;

13. *Welcomes* the entry into force on 24 October 1996 of the Convention on Nuclear Safety,[154] appeals to all States, particularly those operating, constructing, or planning nuclear power reactors, which have not yet taken the necessary steps to become parties to the Convention to do so, and looks forward to the second review meeting, due to take place in April 2002, expecting safety improvements in all areas, particularly in areas where the first review meeting found that there was room for improvement;

14. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management[155] entered into force on 18 June 2001, and appeals to all States which have not yet taken the necessary steps to become parties to it to do so in time to attend the first review meeting of the contracting parties;

15. *Recalls* resolution GC(45)/RES/10B on transport safety, and urges States to ensure that their national regulatory documents governing the transport of radioactive material are in conformity with the latest edition of the Agency's Transport Regulations;

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[154] International Atomic Energy Agency, INFCIRC/449.

[155] International Atomic Energy Agency, INFCIRC/546.

16. *Welcomes* the measures taken by the Agency in support of efforts to prevent illicit trafficking in nuclear materials and other radioactive materials, and in this context decides to bear in mind, in its continued elaboration of an international convention on the suppression of acts of nuclear terrorism, those activities of the Agency, and urges all States to cooperate fully with the Director General and to support the efforts of the Agency in reviewing thoroughly the activities and programmes of the Agency with a view to strengthening its work relevant to preventing acts of terrorism involving nuclear materials and other radioactive materials;

17. *Appeals* to States that have not yet done so to accede to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material,[156] also appeals to States to apply relevant physical protection recommendations and introduce and enforce appropriate measures and legislation to combat illicit trafficking in nuclear materials and other radioactive materials, welcomes the endorsement of the Physical Protection Objectives and Fundamental Principles referred to in document GC(45)/INF/14 by the Board of Governors of the Agency, encourages States to apply these principles in designing, implementing and regulating their national systems for the physical protection of nuclear material and nuclear facilities used for peaceful purposes, and welcomes the decision of the Director General to convene an open-ended group of legal and technical experts in order to prepare a draft of a well-defined amendment, to be subsequently reviewed by the States parties, aimed at strengthening the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and encouraging States to become parties to the Convention;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Director General of the Agency the records of the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly relating to the activities of the Agency.

RESOLUTION 56/95

Adopted at the 86th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.48, submitted by the President of the General Assembly

56/95. Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000, by which it adopted the United Nations Millennium Declaration as the outcome of the Millennium Summit of the United Nations, held at Headquarters from 6 to 8 September 2000,

Recalling also its resolution 55/162 of 14 December 2000, in which it, inter alia, requested the Secretary-General to prepare a long-term "road map" towards the implementation of the Millennium Declaration within the United Nations system and to submit it to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session,

Reaffirming the need to maintain the will and momentum of the Millennium Summit, as well as the importance of a comprehensive and balanced approach in the implementation of and follow-up to the Millennium Declaration,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Road map towards the implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration";[157]

2. *Recommends* that the "road map" be considered as a useful guide in the implementation of the Millennium Declaration by the United Nations system, and invites Member States, as well as the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization and other interested parties to consider the "road map" when formulating plans for implementing goals related to the Declaration;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare an annual report and a comprehensive report every five years on progress achieved by the United Nations system and Member States towards implementing the Millennium Declaration, drawing upon the "road map" and in accordance with resolution 55/162, and requests that the annual reports focus on cross-cutting and cross-sectoral issues, as well as on the major areas set forth in the "road map", while the quinquennial comprehensive reports examine progress achieved towards implementing all the commitments made in the Declaration;

4. *Invites* the United Nations system, in cooperation with Member States, to adopt specific measures to give widespread publicity to the Millennium Declaration and to increase the dissemination of information on the Declaration;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit".

RESOLUTION 56/96

Adopted at the 86th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.46 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana,

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[156] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1456, No. 24631.

[157] A/56/326.

Haiti, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Senegal, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Venezuela, Yemen

56/96. Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the indissoluble links between the principles enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[158] and the foundations of any democratic society,

Recalling its resolution 49/30 of 7 December 1994, in which it recognized the importance of the Managua Declaration and Plan of Action adopted by the Second International Conference of New or Restored Democracies in July 1994,[159] as well as its resolutions 50/133 of 20 December 1995, 51/31 of 6 December 1996, 52/18 of 21 November 1997, 53/31 of 23 November 1998, 54/36 of 29 November 1999 and 55/43 of 27 November 2000,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted by heads of State and Government on 8 September 2000,[160] in particular paragraphs 6 and 24 thereof,

Recalling further the declarations and plans of action of the four international conferences of new or restored democracies adopted in Manila in 1988, Managua in 1994, Bucharest in 1997 and Cotonou in 2000,

Recalling that the Fourth International Conference of New or Restored Democracies focused on peace, security, democracy and development,

Considering the major changes taking place on the international scene and the aspirations of all peoples for an international order based on the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, including the promotion and encouragement of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and other important principles, such as respect for the equal rights and self-determination of peoples, peace, democracy, justice, equality, the rule of law, pluralism, development, better standards of living and solidarity,

Expressing its deep appreciation to the Government of Benin for the generous manner in which it hosted and provided facilities for the Fourth International Conference of New or Restored Democracies,

Bearing in mind that the activities of the United Nations carried out in support of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate democracy are undertaken in accordance with the Charter and only at the specific request of the Member States concerned,

Taking note with satisfaction of the seminars, workshops and conferences on democratization and good governance convened in 2001, as well as those held under the auspices of the International Conference of New or Restored Democracies,

Taking note of the views expressed by Member States in the debate on this question at its forty-ninth to fifty-sixth sessions,

Bearing in mind that democracy, development and respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms are interdependent and mutually reinforcing and that democracy is based on the freely expressed will of the people to determine their own political, economic, social and cultural systems and on their full participation in all aspects of their lives,

Noting that a considerable number of societies have recently undertaken significant efforts to achieve their social, political and economic goals through democratization and the reform of their economies, pursuits that are deserving of the support and recognition of the international community,

Expressing its deep appreciation for the support provided by Member States, the United Nations system, including the specialized agencies, and other intergovernmental organizations to the Government of Benin for the holding of the Fourth International Conference of New or Restored Democracies,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[161] and its focus on the Cotonou Declaration, and the final report adopted by the Fourth International Conference of New or Restored Democracies in Cotonou on 6 December 2000,[162]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;[161]

2. *Encourages* Member States to promote democratization and to make additional efforts to identify possible steps to support the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies;

3. *Welcomes* the work carried out by the intergovernmental follow-up mechanism to the Fourth International Conference of New or Restored Democracies;

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[158] Resolution 217 A (III).

[159] A/49/713, annexes I and II.

[160] See resolution 55/2.

[161] A/56/499.

[162] See A/55/889, annex.

4. *Invites* Member States, the relevant specialized agencies and bodies of the United Nations system, and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to continue to contribute actively to the follow-up to the Fourth International Conference of New or Restored Democracies;

5. *Recognizes* that the United Nations has an important role to play in providing timely, appropriate and coherent support to the efforts of Governments to achieve democratization within the context of their development efforts;

6. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to improve the capacity of the Organization to respond effectively to the requests of Member States by providing coherent and adequate support for their efforts to achieve the goals of good governance and democratization;

7. *Stresses* that the activities of the Organization must be undertaken in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;

8. *Commends* the Secretary-General, and through him the United Nations system, for the activities undertaken at the request of Governments to support efforts to consolidate democracy;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to examine options for strengthening the support provided by the United Nations system for the efforts of Member States to consolidate democracy, including the designation of a focal point;

10. *Welcomes* the decision of the Government of Mongolia to host the Fifth International Conference of New or Restored Democracies in 2003;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies".

RESOLUTION 56/97

Adopted at the 86th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.41/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Gabon, Georgia, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, Iraq, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Marshall Islands, Mongolia, Morocco, New Zealand, Nigeria, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Ukraine, United States of America, Uruguay, Yemen, Yugoslavia

56/97. Return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions 3026 A (XXVII) of 18 December 1972, 3148 (XXVIII) of 14 December 1973, 3187 (XXVIII) of 18 December 1973, 3391 (XXX) of 19 November 1975, 31/40 of 30 November 1976, 32/18 of 11 November 1977, 33/50 of 14 December 1978, 34/64 of 29 November 1979, 35/127 and 35/128 of 11 December 1980, 36/64 of 27 November 1981, 38/34 of 25 November 1983, 40/19 of 21 November 1985, 42/7 of 22 October 1987, 44/18 of 6 November 1989, 46/10 of 22 October 1991, 48/15 of 2 November 1993, 50/56 of 11 December 1995, 52/24 of 25 November 1997 and 54/190 of 17 December 1999,

Bearing in mind its resolution 56/8 of 21 November 2001 on the proclamation of 2002 as the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage,

Recalling the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, adopted at The Hague on 14 May 1954,[163]

Recalling also the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property, adopted on 14 November 1970 by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,[164]

Recalling further the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, adopted on 16 November 1972 by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,[165]

Recalling the Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects, adopted in Rome on 24 June 1995 by the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law,[166]

Recalling also the Medellin Declaration for Cultural Diversity and Tolerance and the Plan of Action on Cultural Cooperation, adopted at the first Meeting of the Ministers of Culture of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Medellin, Colombia, on 4 and 5 September 1997,[167]

Noting the adoption of the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity and the Action Plan for its implementation, adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 2 November 2001,[168]

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[163] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 249, No. 3511.

[164] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Sixteenth Session, Paris, 12 October–14 November 1970*, vol. 1: *Resolutions*.

[165] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1037, No. 15511.

[166] See www.unidroit.org.

[167] A/52/432, annex I.

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General submitted in cooperation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,[169]

Aware of the importance attached by some countries of origin to the return of cultural property that is of fundamental spiritual and cultural value to them, so that they may constitute collections representative of their cultural heritage,

Expressing concern at the illicit traffic in cultural property and its damage to the cultural heritage of nations,

Expressing concern also at the loss, destruction, removal, theft, pillage, illicit movement or misappropriation of and any acts of vandalism or damage directed against cultural property in areas of armed conflict and territories that are occupied, whether such conflicts are international or internal,

1. *Commends* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation on the work they have accomplished, in particular through the promotion of bilateral negotiations, for the return or restitution of cultural property, the preparation of inventories of movable cultural property and the implementation of the Object-ID standard related thereto, as well as for the reduction of illicit traffic in cultural property and the dissemination of information to the public;

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of the provisions of the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict,[163] and invites Member States that have not already done so to become parties to the Convention and to promote its implementation;

3. *Welcomes* the adoption of the Second Protocol to the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, adopted at The Hague on 26 March 1999, and invites all States Parties to the Convention to consider becoming parties to the Second Protocol;

4. *Invites* Member States to consider adopting and implementing the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property;[164]

5. *Reaffirms* the importance of the provisions of the Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects,[166] and invites Member States that have not already done so to consider becoming parties to it;

6. *Urges* Member States to introduce effective national and international measures to prevent and combat the illicit trafficking in cultural property;

7. *Calls upon* all relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant intergovernmental organizations to work in coordination with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, within their mandates and in cooperation with Member States, in order to continue to address the issue of return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin, and to provide appropriate support accordingly;

8. *Invites* Member States to continue drawing up, in cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, systematic inventories of their cultural property;

9. *Reaffirms* the efforts of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to promote the use of identification systems, in particular the application of the Object-ID standard, and to encourage the linking of identification systems and existing databases, including the one developed by the International Criminal Police Organization, to allow for the electronic transmission of information in order to reduce the illicit trafficking in cultural property, and encourages the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to make further efforts in this regard in cooperation with Member States, where appropriate;

10. *Welcomes* the adoption of the International Code of Ethics for Dealers in Cultural Property by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 16 November 1999,[170] and takes note of the creation by the General Conference at the same session of the International Fund for the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation, which was launched in November 2000 on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property;

11. *Encourages* the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to define and implement a strategy for the effective promotion of the International Fund, and invites Member States, intergovernmental bodies, the private sector and other interested donors of the international community to make voluntary contributions to the Fund;

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[168] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-first Session, Paris, 15 October–3 November 2001*, vol. 1: *Resolutions*.

[169] See A/56/413.

[170] See United Nations, Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirtieth Session, Paris, 26 October–17 November 1999*, vol. 1: *Resolutions*.

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to cooperate with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in its efforts to develop all possibilities, including any further initiatives, for bringing about the attainment of the objectives of the present resolution;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin".

RESOLUTION 56/98

Adopted at the 86th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.43 and Add.1, sponsored by: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela

56/98. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 54/8 of 25 October 1999 on cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[171]

Bearing in mind the Agreement between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System,[172] in which the parties agree to strengthen and expand their cooperation in matters that are of common concern in the field of their respective competence pursuant to their constitutional instruments,

Considering that the Latin American Economic System is developing joint activities with the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Intellectual Property Organization, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Welcoming the continued monitoring of changes in the treatment of topics relating to the United Nations system, in close contact with the delegations of the Member States participating in such deliberations,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General;[171]

2. *Urges* the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to continue deepening its coordination and mutual support activities with the Latin American Economic System;

3. *Urges* the United Nations Development Programme, within its new overall framework and high-priority development objectives in support of sustainable development, to continue its financial and technical cooperation with the programmes that the Permanent Secretariat of the Latin American Economic System is carrying out in areas of mutual interest and concern, aimed at complementing the technical assistance activities conducted by the Latin American Economic System;

4. *Urges* the specialized agencies and other organizations, funds and programmes of the United Nations system to continue and intensify their support for, and cooperation in the activities of, the Latin American Economic System;

5. *Reiterates its request* to both the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Permanent Secretary of the Latin American Economic System to assess, at the appropriate time, the implementation of the Agreement between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System[172] and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/99

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.14 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine,

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[171] A/56/171.

[172] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1651, No. 1061.

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Yugoslavia

56/99. Emergency response to disasters

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations, including the guiding principles of humanitarian assistance contained therein,

Recalling its resolutions 44/236 of 22 December 1989, 54/30 of 22 November 1999 and 54/219 of 22 December 1999,

Welcoming the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction,

Deeply concerned by the fact that natural disasters in every corner of the globe continue to claim high numbers of casualties and cause immense material damage and that the frequency and magnitude of these catastrophes place an ever-increasing material and moral burden on nations,

Reiterating the importance of mounting prompt and effective relief operations in the aftermath of such deadly calamities in the future,

Welcoming the ongoing efforts, led by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, aimed at promoting preparedness for disaster response at the international, regional and national levels, including, in collaboration with the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group, initiatives to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of international urban search and rescue assistance in the aftermath of natural disasters,

1. *Expresses its solidarity* with the peoples of the countries that have been struck by natural calamities as they cope with the consequences of these disasters;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to all States of the international community, international agencies and organizations and non-governmental organizations and individuals that are providing emergency relief to the areas affected by natural disasters;

3. *Notes with satisfaction* the progress achieved by the Governments of Turkey and Greece, in cooperation with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, on the formation of a joint Hellenic-Turkish standby disaster response unit, which will be operational in the near future, with no financial implications for the programme budget of the United Nations;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, through the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, to continue work on the modalities for the utilization of the standby disaster relief unit by the United Nations system;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/100

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.39 and Add.1, as orally revised, sponsored by: Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Honduras, India, Madagascar, Malawi, Morocco, Namibia, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Togo, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe

56/100. Special assistance for the economic recovery and reconstruction of the Democratic Republic of the Congo

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/169 A of 16 December 1997, 53/1 L of 7 December 1998, 54/96 B of 8 December 1999 and 55/166 of 14 December 2000,

Recalling also all resolutions of the Security Council and all statements by its President relating to the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo,

Recalling further the Ceasefire Agreement signed in Lusaka[173] and the Kampala disengagement plan[174] and the obligations of all signatories to those agreements and the obligations deriving from Security Council resolution 1304 (2000),

Reaffirming the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and all States in the region,

Alarmed at the plight of the civilian population throughout the country, and calling for its protection,

Gravely concerned at the deteriorating economic, social and humanitarian situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in particular in the eastern Congo, and at the effect of the continued fighting on the inhabitants of the country, especially women and children,

Deeply concerned at the increased rate of infection with the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS), in particular among women and girls in the Democratic Republic of the Congo,

Expressing its deep concern at the dire consequences of the conflict for the humanitarian and human rights situations,

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[173] S/1999/815, annex.

[174] See S/2000/330 and Corr.1, paras. 21–28.

Gravely concerned at the negative impact of war on the promotion of the sustainable and overall development of the country,

Urging all parties to respect and protect human rights and respect international humanitarian law, in particular, the Geneva Conventions of 1949[175] and the additional Protocols thereto, of 1977,[176]

Deeply concerned at the continued extensive destruction of life and property and the severe damage to infrastructure and the environment suffered by the Democratic Republic of the Congo, as well as the reports of the illegal exploitation of its natural resources,

Bearing in mind the fact that the Democratic Republic of the Congo hosts thousands of refugees from neighbouring countries, which places a great burden on its limited resources, and hoping that conditions will be created that will facilitate a safe and voluntary return of refugees,

Recalling that the Democratic Republic of the Congo is a least developed country with severe economic and social problems arising from its weak economic infrastructure and aggravated by the ongoing conflict,

Bearing in mind the close interrelationship between ensuring peace and security and the ability of the country to meet the humanitarian needs of its people and to take effective steps towards the rapid revitalization of the economy, and reaffirming the urgent need to assist the Democratic Republic of the Congo in the rehabilitation and reconstruction of its damaged economy and in its efforts to restore basic services and the infrastructure of the country,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[177]

2. *Welcomes* the opening of the Inter-Congolese Dialogue on 15 October 2001, and calls upon all Congolese parties to make every effort to promote the process and ensure the success of a fully inclusive dialogue in a spirit of consensus;

3. *Urges* all parties concerned in the region to cease military activities, cease any support for armed groups and any recruitment, training and use of child soldiers, calls upon those States which have not done so to withdraw from the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in accordance with the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement,[173] the Kampala disengagement plan[174] and relevant Security Council resolutions, and urges all parties to engage in a process of political dialogue and negotiation and to create the conditions necessary for the speedy and peaceful resolution of the crisis;

4. *Encourages* the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to continue and develop its cooperation with the United Nations, its specialized agencies and other organizations in addressing the need for rehabilitation and reconstruction;

5. *Also encourages* the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to pursue sound macroeconomic policies and to promote good governance and the rule of the law, and urges it to exert all efforts for economic recovery and reconstruction despite the ongoing armed conflict;

6. *Stresses* the link between the peace process and the economic recovery of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, welcomes economic reforms undertaken by its Government, and encourages it to carry on with this process for the benefit of the entire Congolese people;

7. *Also stresses* the importance of the restoration of river traffic, welcomes in this regard the reopening of the Congo and the Oubangi Rivers, and expresses its support for the establishment of the Congo River Basin Commission;

8. *Renews its urgent appeal* to the executive boards of the United Nations funds and programmes to continue to keep under consideration the special needs of the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

9. *Welcomes* the continued and increased efforts of the Secretary-General, the United Nations system and its agencies, programmes and funds in ensuring that the gender perspective is mainstreamed in the reconstruction agenda of the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

10. *Urges* all parties to respect fully international humanitarian law and to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel to all affected populations throughout the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the safety of United Nations and humanitarian personnel, and in that regard stresses that the reopening of the Kisangani-Kindu rail and river link would facilitate the delivery of humanitarian assistance, as well as the resupplying of humanitarian personnel;

11. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to provide support to the humanitarian relief activities within the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

12. *Invites* Governments to continue to provide support to the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To continue to consult urgently with regional leaders, in coordination with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, about ways to bring about a peaceful and durable solution to the conflict, in accordance with the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement and relevant Security Council resolutions;

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[175] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[176] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

[177] A/56/269.

(*b*) To continue to consult with regional leaders, in coordination with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, in order to convene, when appropriate, an international conference on peace, security and development in Central Africa and in the Great Lakes region, under the auspices of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity, to address the problems of the region in a comprehensive manner;

(*c*) To keep under review the economic situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo with a view to promoting participation in and support for a programme of financial and material assistance to the country to enable it to meet its urgent needs in terms of economic recovery and reconstruction;

(*d*) To submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the actions taken pursuant to the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/101

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.49 and Add.1, sponsored by: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia

56/101. Humanitarian assistance to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991, and reaffirming that humanitarian assistance should be provided in accordance with the guiding principles contained in the annex to that resolution,

Recalling also its resolutions 54/96 F of 15 December 1999 and 55/169 of 14 December 2000, concerning humanitarian assistance to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia,

Deeply appreciative of the humanitarian assistance and the rehabilitation support rendered by a number of States, in particular major contributors, international agencies and organizations and non-governmental organizations to alleviate the humanitarian needs of the affected population in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, in particular the emergency assistance provided by the European Union and various countries,

Recognizing the role of the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe and the stabilization and association process for the western Balkans in assisting the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in its efforts in further promoting democratic and economic reforms and in intensifying regional cooperation,

Deeply appreciative of the humanitarian assistance given to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia through the United Nations consolidated inter-agency appeal for South-Eastern Europe, and the humanitarian assistance provided by many Member States outside the framework of the consolidated appeal, through non-governmental organizations, regional organizations and initiatives and bilateral channels,

Welcoming the fact that, at the donor conference hosted jointly by the World Bank and the European Commission in Brussels on 29 June 2001, the programme for reform and development of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia received strong support and confirmed that meeting the basic needs of vulnerable groups within the refugee, displaced and resident populations remains a priority for humanitarian agencies,

Deeply concerned at the continuing urgency of the humanitarian situation in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, aware of the magnitude of the humanitarian requirements of the country, and recognizing the need to ensure effective links between relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development efforts in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia,

Aware of the weakness of the economy and basic services, which exacerbates further the situation of socially and economically vulnerable segments of the population, including refugees and internally displaced persons, and which is coupled with a continuing decrease in basic social services capacity, especially in the health sector,

Acknowledging that a large number of refugees remain in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and that assistance requirements will include, as appropriate, local integration,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[178]

Taking note also of the biweekly reports on the humanitarian situation in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, prepared in Belgrade by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat,[179]

Recognizing the role of the United Nations in helping the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to resolve the humanitarian problems that confront it and in coordinating the efforts of the international community to provide humanitarian assistance to the country,

1. *Calls upon* all States, regional organizations, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other relevant bodies to provide humanitarian assistance to alleviate the humanitarian needs of the affected population in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, bearing in mind in particular the special situation of women, children, the elderly and other vulnerable groups;

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[178] A/56/361.

[179] See www.reliefweb.int.

2. *Also calls upon* all States, regional organizations, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other relevant bodies to offer support to the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in its efforts to ensure the transition from relief to the long-term goals of the rehabilitation, reconstruction and development of the country;

3. *Welcomes* the continued commitment of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and encourages it to cooperate further with the United Nations system and humanitarian organizations to address the humanitarian needs of the affected population, including refugees and internally displaced persons, and urges the relevant authorities and the international community to support programmes that will ensure that the humanitarian needs of refugees and internally displaced persons in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia are met and to pursue durable solutions to their plight, in particular voluntary repatriation and reintegration, stresses the need to create conditions that are conducive to their safe return, and emphasizes in this regard the importance of regional cooperation in the search for solutions to the plight of refugees;

4. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to continue to mobilize the timely provision of international humanitarian assistance to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia;

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of strengthening the coordination of humanitarian assistance to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, inter alia, through the mechanisms of a consolidated inter-agency appeal, and recognizes in this regard especially the role of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat;

6. *Encourages* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Council of Europe and other organizations to enhance their cooperation in the provision of humanitarian assistance to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia;

7. *Requests* the United Nations and the specialized agencies to continue their efforts to assess the humanitarian needs, in cooperation with the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, relevant international and regional organizations and bodies and interested States, with a view to ensuring effective links between relief and longer-term assistance to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, taking into account the work already carried out in this field and the need to avoid duplication and the overlapping of efforts;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-seventh session, under the item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance", a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/102

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.50 and Add.1, sponsored by: Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Seychelles, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Yugoslavia

56/102. Participation of volunteers, "White Helmets", in the activities of the United Nations in the field of humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and technical cooperation for development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 50/19 of 28 November 1995, 52/171 of 16 December 1997 and 54/98 of 8 December 1999,

Reaffirming also its resolutions 46/182 of 19 December 1991, 47/168 of 22 December 1992, 48/57 of 14 December 1993, 49/139 A and B of 20 December 1994, 50/57 of 12 December 1995 and 51/194 of 17 December 1996 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1995/56 of 28 July 1995 and 1996/33 of 25 July 1996,

Recognizing that recent events emphasize the need for the international community, in addressing the growing magnitude and complexity of natural disasters and other humanitarian emergencies, to rely not only on the formulation of a well-coordinated global response within the framework of the United Nations but also on the promotion of a smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation, reconstruction and development,

Recalling that prevention, preparedness and contingency planning for emergencies at the global level depend, for the most part, on the strengthened local and national response capacities as well as on the availability of financial resources, both domestic and international,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[180] prepared in pursuance of its resolution 54/98 on the participation of volunteers, "White Helmets", in activities of the United Nations in the field of humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and technical cooperation for development;

2. *Encourages* voluntary national and regional actions aimed at making available to the United Nations system, through the United Nations Volunteers and other agencies, national volunteer corps such as the White Helmets on a

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[180] A/56/308.

standby basis, in accordance with accepted United Nations procedures and practices, in order to provide specialized human and technical resources for emergency relief and rehabilitation;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the commendable progress of the White Helmets initiative as a singular voluntary international effort to provide the United Nations system with voluntary expertise to respond, in a quick and coordinated manner, to humanitarian relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development, while preserving the non-political, neutral and impartial character of humanitarian action;

4. *Recognizes* that the White Helmets, in close cooperation with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and as an operational partner of the United Nations system, are an efficient and viable mechanism for making pre-identified and trained homogeneous teams available to the United Nations, in support of immediate relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development activities, in the light of the increasing number, growing magnitude and complexity of natural disasters and other emergencies;

5. *Calls upon* Member States to promote the facilitation of cooperative actions between the United Nations system and civil society, through national volunteer corps, in order to strengthen the United Nations capacities for early and effective response to humanitarian emergencies, and invites them to make the commensurate financial resources available through the special financing window of the Special Voluntary Fund of the United Nations Volunteers, or in coordination with it;

6. *Encourages* Member States to identify and support their respective national focal points for the White Helmets in order to continue to provide the United Nations system with an accessible global network of rapid response facilities in case of humanitarian emergencies;

7. *Recognizes with appreciation* the progress made by the States members of the Common Market of the South and associated partners in the strengthening and broadening of the White Helmets humanitarian assistance concept within a regional framework, and encourages Member States in other regional associations to consider implementing that concept in their efforts aimed at extending humanitarian assistance cooperation;

8. *Invites* Member States, international financial institutions, regional organizations and the United Nations system to consider ways and means to ensure the integration of the White Helmets initiative into their programme activities, particularly those related to humanitarian and disaster relief assistance;

9. *Invites* the Secretary-General, on the basis of the experience acquired, to consider further the potential use of White Helmets as a resource for preventing and mitigating the effects of emergencies and post-conflict humanitarian emergencies and, in this context, to maintain an adequate structure for the White Helmets liaison functions, taking into account the outgoing reforms process;

10. *Recommends* that the Secretary-General encourage relevant agencies of the United Nations system to explore opportunities for collaboration with White Helmets, taking into account the success of coordinated actions carried out, inter alia, with the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Food Programme, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Volunteers;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue the consideration of the possible strengthening and broadening of consultative mechanisms to promote further and operationalize the concept, as referred to in paragraphs 9 and 10 above, and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance", on the actions taken in conformity with the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/103

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.51 and Corr.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bangladesh, Belize, Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mexico, Papua New Guinea, Russian Federation, South Africa, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Turkey, Uruguay

56/103. International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991, the annex to which contains the guiding principles for the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations system, and its resolutions 52/12 B of 19 December 1997, 54/219 and 54/233 of 22 December 1999 and 55/163 of 14 December 2000, and recalling agreed conclusions 1999/1 of the Economic and Social Council[181] and Council resolution 1999/63 of 30 July 1999,

Recognizing the importance of the principles of neutrality, humanity and impartiality for the provision of humanitarian assistance,

Emphasizing that the affected State has the primary responsibility in the initiation, organization, coordination and implementation of humanitarian assistance within its territory, and in the facilitation of the work of humanitarian organizations in mitigating the consequences of natural disasters,

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[181] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/54/3/Rev.1), chap. VI, para. 5.

Emphasizing also the responsibility of all States to undertake disaster preparedness and mitigation efforts in order to minimize the impact of natural disasters,

Welcoming the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction,

Emphasizing the importance of raising awareness among developing countries of the capacities existing at the national, regional and international levels that could be deployed to assist them,

Emphasizing also the importance of international cooperation in support of the efforts of the affected States in dealing with natural disasters in all their phases, including prevention, preparedness, mitigation and recovery and reconstruction, and of strengthening the response capacity of affected countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on international cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development[182] and on strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations;[183]

2. *Expresses deep concern* at the increasing number and scale of natural disasters, resulting in massive losses of life and property worldwide, in particular in vulnerable societies lacking adequate capacity to mitigate effectively the long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences of natural disasters;

3. *Calls upon* all States to adopt, where required, and to continue to implement effectively necessary legislative and other appropriate measures to mitigate the effects of natural disasters, inter alia, by disaster prevention, including building regulations and appropriate land use, as well as disaster preparedness and capacity-building in disaster response, and requests the international community in that context to continue to assist developing countries, where appropriate;

4. *Stresses*, in that context, the importance of strengthening international cooperation in the provision of humanitarian assistance in support of the efforts of the affected States in dealing with natural disasters in all their phases, from relief and mitigation to development, including through the provision of adequate resources, and encourages the effective use of multilateral mechanisms;

5. *Also stresses* that humanitarian assistance for natural disasters should be provided in accordance with and with due respect for the guiding principles contained in the annex to resolution 46/182, and should be determined on the basis of the human dimension and needs arising out of the particular natural disasters;

6. *Recognizes* that economic growth and sustainable development contribute to improving the capacity of States to mitigate, respond to and prepare for natural disasters;

7. *Reaffirms* that disaster reduction forms an integral part of sustainable development strategies and needs to be considered in the development plans of all vulnerable countries and communities, and also reaffirms that within such preventive strategies, disaster preparedness and early warning systems must be strengthened further at the country and regional levels, inter alia, through better coordination among relevant United Nations bodies and cooperation with Governments of affected countries and regional and other relevant organizations with the aim of maximizing the effectiveness of natural disaster response and reducing the impact of natural disasters, particularly in developing countries;

8. *Emphasizes* the importance of enhanced international cooperation, including with the United Nations and regional organizations, to assist developing countries in their efforts to build capacities, and to predict, prepare and respond to natural disasters;

9. *Stresses* the need for partnership among Governments of the affected countries, relevant humanitarian organizations and specialized companies to promote training in, access to and use of technologies to strengthen preparedness for and response to natural disasters, and to enhance the transfer of current technologies and corresponding know-how, in particular to developing countries, on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed;

10. *Encourages* the further use of space-based and ground-based remote-sensing technologies for the prevention, mitigation and management of natural disasters, where appropriate;

11. *Also encourages* in such operations the sharing of geographical data, including remotely sensed images and geographic information system and global positioning system data among Governments, space agencies and relevant international humanitarian organizations, as appropriate, and notes in that context the work being done by the International Charter on Space and Major Disasters and the Global Disaster Information Network;

12. *Stresses* that particular international cooperation efforts should be undertaken to enhance and broaden further the utilization of national and local capacities and, where appropriate, regional and subregional capacities of developing countries for disaster preparedness and response, which may be made available in closer proximity to the site of a disaster, more efficiently and at lower cost;

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[182] A/56/307.

[183] A/56/95-E/2001/85.

13. *Welcomes* the role of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat as the focal point within the overall United Nations system for the promotion and coordination of disaster response preparedness among the United Nations humanitarian agencies and other humanitarian partners;

14. *Also welcomes* the establishment of the positions of regional disaster response advisers by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, as well as the initiative of the United Nations Development Programme to establish regional disaster reduction adviser positions, and encourages the further development of those initiatives in a coordinated and complementary manner in order to assist developing countries in capacity-building for disaster prevention, preparedness mitigation and response;

15. *Takes note* of the initiatives taken by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and by the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of international urban search and rescue assistance in the aftermath of natural disasters;

16. *Encourages* the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to continue its efforts to promote greater international cooperation to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of urban search and rescue assistance;

17. *Encourages* further cooperation between the United Nations system and regional organizations in order to increase the capacity of those organizations to respond to natural disasters;

18. *Encourages* States that have not signed or ratified the Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations, adopted at Tampere, Finland, on 18 June 1998,[184] to consider doing so;

19. *Invites* the United Nations system to explore further the concept of transitional recovery teams for providing assistance for bridging relief assistance and development cooperation;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with relevant organization partners, to continue progress on compiling a directory of disaster mitigation capacity existing at the national, regional and international levels and developing the Directory of Advanced Technologies for Disaster Response as a new part of the Central Register of Disaster Management Capacities;

21. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to complete the project of issuing a global report on disaster reduction as undertaken by the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;

22. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to continue to consider mechanisms to improve the international response to natural disasters, inter alia, by addressing any geographical and sectoral imbalances in such a response, where they exist, as well as by more effective use of national emergency response agencies, taking into account their comparative advantages and specializations, as well as existing arrangements, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session under the item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance", with a view, inter alia, to contributing towards the comprehensive report on the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, to be submitted to the Assembly at that session under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development".

RESOLUTION 56/104

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.52 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mozambique, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Tonga, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu

56/104. Assistance for humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and development for East Timor

The General Assembly,

Recalling all of its relevant resolutions on the situation in East Timor,

Recalling also its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 and the guiding principles contained in the annex to that resolution,

Recalling further all of the relevant Security Council resolutions and decisions on the situation in East Timor, in particular resolutions 1272 (1999) of 25 October 1999, 1319 (2000) of 8 September 2000 and 1338 (2001) of 31 January 2001,

Recalling the establishment by Security Council resolution 1272 (1999) of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor, whose mandate includes the coordination and delivery of humanitarian, rehabilitation and development assistance, support for capacity-building for self-government and assistance in the establishment of conditions for sustainable development,

Welcoming the response of the United Nations, other intergovernmental organizations, Member States and non-

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[184] United Nations Treaty registration No. 27688.

governmental organizations, with the coordination of the Transitional Administration since 1 January 2000, and in cooperation with the East Timorese people, in terms of addressing the humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and development needs of East Timor,

Welcoming also the passing of the immediate emergency and humanitarian phase in East Timor, while noting continuing vulnerabilities, including the need to strengthen the preparedness and response capacity for addressing humanitarian emergencies, and the remaining challenges of rehabilitation, reconstruction and development,

Acknowledging the continuing progress made in the transition from relief to development in East Timor and, in this regard, the important role played by the Transitional Administration in supporting the resilient and determined efforts of the East Timorese people themselves,

Emphasizing the need for continued international assistance to East Timor to support the transition from relief and rehabilitation to development, and recognizing the significant challenges that are to be faced in this regard in preparation for independence and in the post-independence period, inter alia, in the sectors of public administration, education, health, agriculture and infrastructure,

Welcoming the efforts of the Government of Indonesia and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in providing humanitarian assistance to the East Timorese refugees in the province of East Nusa Tenggara, West Timor, and in facilitating their return to East Timor, and in this respect recognizing the importance of the international community in assisting the efforts of the Government of Indonesia to implement programmes for the resettlement and repatriation of East Timorese refugees,

Welcoming also the initiation by Indonesia of criminal proceedings against the perpetrators of the deplorable killing of three personnel of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees at Atambua on 6 September 2000, bearing in mind the importance of the independence of the national judiciary, and expressing the hope that the final sentences for those found guilty will be commensurate with the serious nature of the crimes,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[185]

2. *Encourages* the United Nations, other intergovernmental organizations, Member States and non-governmental organizations, with the coordination of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor, and in close consultation and cooperation with the East Timorese people, to continue to collaborate to address the remaining longer-term vulnerabilities of East Timor, including in the area of preparedness and response capacity for addressing humanitarian emergencies, and to support the transition from relief and rehabilitation to development;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of continuing close consultation with and participation of East Timorese institutions and civil society, including local non-governmental organizations, in the planning and delivery of rehabilitation, reconstruction and development assistance to East Timor;

4. *Urges* United Nations organizations, the international community and non-governmental organizations to continue their efforts aimed at the enhanced ownership and participation of all East Timorese, including women and vulnerable groups, in the rehabilitation, reconstruction and development of East Timor, and in this regard stresses the need for continued international assistance to support local capacity-building, inter alia, in areas such as education, health, agriculture and rural development, the judiciary, governance and public administration, security and law and order;

5. *Welcomes* the convening of donor meetings for East Timor in Tokyo in December 1999, Lisbon in June 2000, Brussels in December 2000, Canberra in June 2001 and Oslo in December 2001, which focused on the national budget and the transition towards independence in East Timor in four key areas, political, public administration, public finances, and economic and social reconstruction, and urges the international community to fulfil its pledges to meet the external requirements for rehabilitation, reconstruction and development activities for East Timor;

6. *Also welcomes* the official launching of the joint appeal for East Timorese refugees, presented by the Government of Indonesia and the United Nations in Jakarta on 27 November 2001;

7. *Further welcomes* the successful holding, on 30 August 2001, of the elections for the East Timor Constituent Assembly and the appointment, on 20 September 2001, of the all-East Timorese Second Transitional Government;

8. *Acknowledges* that the establishment of an effective and functioning governmental administration is crucial to fostering a stable and secure social, economic and political environment in East Timor, and in this regard urges the international community to continue to support efforts aimed at institution-building and the training of civil servants, in particular in the areas of public finances, the judiciary, senior management and the development and maintenance of the central administrative systems of government;

9. *Welcomes* the continuing response to food aid needs by the international community, and calls upon the United Nations, other intergovernmental organizations, Member States and non-governmental organizations to assist the East Timorese in ensuring sustainable development in the areas of agriculture, livestock and fisheries;

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[185] A/56/338.

10. *Recommends* that outstanding infrastructure needs remain an essential focus of international assistance in such areas as the reconstruction and rehabilitation of public buildings, educational facilities, roads and public services, including water and sanitation and the supply of electricity;

11. *Commends* the rapid international response in terms of providing health services to the general population, including the early deployment of immunization and disease prevention programmes, and reproductive health care and child nutrition programmes, while recognizing the need for further assistance to rebuild hospitals and train health-care professionals and enhance capacity-building to meet the challenge to public health posed by diseases such as tuberculosis, malaria and the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS);

12. *Welcomes* the ongoing reopening of schools, the supply and distribution of educational materials, and teacher training, while emphasizing the need for capacity-building, particularly in the area of secondary and higher education, and for continued attention to the rehabilitation needs, including psychosocial support, of children affected by the violence;

13. *Acknowledges* the efforts of the Government of Indonesia, in cooperation with the Transitional Administration, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Organization for Migration and other humanitarian organizations, to facilitate organized and spontaneous returns of East Timorese refugees from West Timor, and encourages the Government of Indonesia to continue its efforts to establish effective security in and around the refugee camps in West Timor in order to facilitate safe and voluntary returns of refugees;

14. *Reaffirms* the need to ensure safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel and assistance to all those in need, recognizes in this regard the continuing implementation by the Government of Indonesia of Security Council resolution 1319 (2000), encourages the Government to continue its efforts in that regard in full cooperation with Member States, the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations, and underscores the importance of continued international assistance to support the efforts of the Government of Indonesia and relevant organizations to meet the needs of East Timorese refugees in West Timor, inter alia, by assisting their voluntary repatriation or resettlement, and by contributing to humanitarian assistance needs in the camps in West Timor;

15. *Urges* the United Nations to continue to address the rehabilitation, reconstruction and development needs of East Timor;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution for consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session.

RESOLUTION 56/105

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.53 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Belize, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Ireland, Italy, Lebanon, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United States of America

56/105. International assistance to and cooperation with the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the resolutions in which it emphasizes and acknowledges the importance of international, bilateral and multilateral economic, financial and technical support, cooperation and assistance for peacekeeping and peace-building in Central America following the armed conflicts in the region, in particular its resolutions 49/21 I of 20 December 1994, 50/58 B of 12 December 1995, 50/132 of 20 December 1995, 52/169 G of 16 December 1997 and 54/96 E of 15 December 1999, which provide a frame of reference for international assistance to and cooperation with the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America,[186] in support of national efforts to make the region a zone of peace, freedom, democracy and development,

Noting that the Central American countries have achieved significant progress towards the consolidation of democracy and good governance, the strengthening of civilian Governments, respect for human rights and the rule of law and the promotion of State and economic reforms, sustainable development and regional integration, reflecting the desire of the Central American peoples to live and prosper in a climate of peace and solidarity,

Stressing the importance and effectiveness of the commitments undertaken by the Central American Presidents at various regional presidential summits, in particular those which constitute the global framework for promoting and consolidating peace, freedom, democracy and sustainable human development in Central America,

Stressing also the consolidation of the Centre for Coordination of the Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America, which is of great value for the subregion in the development of more effective strategies to mitigate the impact of natural disasters,

Recognizing the extreme vulnerability of the poorest sectors of the population, in particular women and children, and the inadequacy of existing local and national institutions to deal with recurrent natural disasters,

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[186] See A/49/580-S/1994/1217, annex I.

Noting that the various natural phenomena which have affected the region are one of the factors that have put at risk the biodiversity of Central America,

Noting also the holding of the meeting of the Regional Consultative Group for the transformation and modernization of Central America, co-hosted by the Inter-American Development Bank and the Government of Spain, in Madrid on 8 and 9 March 2001, at which the main theme was the revision of the regional strategy for strengthening regional integration and cooperation and their contribution to poverty reduction and the acceleration of sustainable growth,

Taking into account that the Governments of the region have designated the period 2000–2004 as the Quinquennium for the Reduction of Vulnerability to and the Impact of Natural Disasters in Central America and that the Presidents of the region adopted the Strategic Framework for the Reduction of Vulnerability and Disasters in Central America, on 19 October 1999, in the Declaration of Guatemala II[187] which contains guidelines for the elaboration, updating, improvement and development of regional plans for the reduction of vulnerability to and the impact of natural disasters, the integrated management and conservation of water resources and the prevention and control of forest fires,

Stressing that the achievement of the national priorities in the political, economic, social, cultural, environmental, public safety and regional integration fields, which are set out in the programme of the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America, is essential for reducing the vulnerability of the region to natural disasters and for promoting sustainable development,

Considering the necessity of ensuring the elimination of anti-personnel mines from Central American territory as well as the rehabilitation and reintegration of mine victims in their communities in order to restore normal conditions for the integral development of that region,

Recognizing the valuable and effective contribution made by the organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system and by the various governmental and non-governmental mechanisms, the donor community and the Regional Consultative Group for the transformation and modernization of Central America and the importance of the political dialogue and cooperation taking place between the European Union and Central America and the joint initiative of the industrialized countries of the Group of Twenty-four and the Group of Three (Colombia, Mexico and Venezuela) in the progress made towards consolidating peace, freedom, democracy and the implementation of the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America,

Reaffirming the need to continue focusing attention on the situation in Central America, with a view to overcoming the underlying causes of the armed conflicts which have impeded the development of the region and avoiding a reversal of the achievements,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General;[188]

2. *Reiterates* the importance of supporting and strengthening the efforts of the Central American countries to implement the Strategic Framework for the Reduction of Vulnerability and Disasters in Central America,[187] and the projects and programmes of the Quinquennium for the Reduction of Vulnerability to and the Impact of Natural Disasters in Central America, in accordance with the process of transformation and sustainable development for the region, which contain basic guidelines for the prevention and mitigation of damage, with special emphasis on the most vulnerable groups and sectors, as identified by levels of poverty and marginality;

3. *Notes* the efforts and achievements relating to mine clearance in Central America, and appeals to the organs of the United Nations system, in particular the Mine Action Service of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat, the Organization of American States, as well as the international community, to continue providing the material, technical and financial support needed by the Central American Governments to complete mine-clearance, mine-awareness and victim assistance activities in the region, in conformity with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and with the provisions of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction[189] that relate to international cooperation and assistance;

4. *Stresses* the need for the international community to maintain its cooperation and assistance, including provision of financial resources, both bilateral and multilateral, with the Central American countries to support the promotion of sustainable development and the consolidation of peace, freedom and democracy in the region;

5. *Notes with appreciation* the revision of the subregional cooperation programme in Central America of the United Nations Development Programme, launched in 1996, and of the national programmes of other United Nations agencies on the basis of the regional strategy entitled "Strategy for the transformation and modernization of Central America", the main objectives of which are the reduction of social, economic and environmental vulnerabilities, the transformation of productive sectors, sustainable management of natural

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[187] See A/54/630, annex.

[188] A/56/158.

[189] See CD/1478.

resources, and the increased participation of civil society in development;

6. *Notes with satisfaction* the progress achieved in the establishment of a Meso-American Biological Corridor, which is being developed with assistance from the United Nations Development Programme's own funds, the Global Environment Facility through the World Bank, the United Nations Environment Programme, the Inter-American Development Bank, the German Agency for Technical Cooperation and the United States Agency for International Development;

7. *Supports* the decision of the Central American Governments to concentrate their efforts on the implementation of updated programmes with strategies to achieve sustainable human development in previously determined priority areas, which help to consolidate democracy and resolve social inequalities and extreme poverty;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system and all States, international financial institutions and regional and subregional organizations to continue providing the support needed to attain the objectives of the programme for the sustainable development of Central America, including those which are being pursued within the framework of the Quinquennium for the Reduction of Vulnerability to and the Impact of Natural Disasters in Central America;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

10. *Decides* to consider at its fifty-eighth session the question of international assistance to and cooperation with the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America.

RESOLUTION 56/106

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.54 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Angola, Austria, Bangladesh, Benin, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, France, Ghana, Guinea, India, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

56/106. Assistance for humanitarian relief and the economic and social rehabilitation of Somalia

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/160 of 18 December 1992, 48/201 of 21 December 1993, 49/21 L of 20 December 1994, 50/58 G of 20 December 1995, 51/30 G of 13 December 1996, 52/169 L of 16 December 1997, 53/1 M of 8 December 1998, 54/96 D of 8 December 1999 and 55/168 of 14 December 2000 as well as the resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council on emergency assistance to Somalia,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 733 (1992) of 23 January 1992 and all subsequent relevant resolutions, in which the Council, inter alia, urged all parties, movements and factions in Somalia to facilitate the efforts of the United Nations, the specialized agencies and humanitarian organizations to provide urgent humanitarian assistance to the affected population in Somalia, and reiterated the call for the full respect of the security and safety of the personnel of those organizations and guarantee of their complete freedom of movement in and around Mogadishu and other parts of Somalia,

Recalling further the statement by the President of the Security Council of 31 October 2001,[190] in which the Security Council reiterated its support for the outcome of the Somalia National Peace Conference, held in Arta, Republic of Djibouti, and the establishment of the Transitional National Assembly and the Transitional National Government, and encouraged the Government to continue, in the spirit of constructive dialogue, the process of engaging all groups in the country, including in the north-eastern and north-western areas, with a view to preparing for the installation of permanent governance arrangements through the democratic process,

Noting the cooperation between the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity, the League of Arab States, the European Union, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the countries members of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development and its Partners Forum, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and others in their efforts to resolve the humanitarian, security and political crisis in Somalia, and bearing in mind the respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and unity of Somalia,

Noting with appreciation the continued efforts made by the Secretary-General to assist the Somali people in their efforts to promote peace, stability and national reconciliation,

Commending the initiative of the President of the Republic of Djibouti aimed at restoring peace and stability in Somalia, and noting with appreciation the efforts of the Government and people of Djibouti in hosting and facilitating the Somalia National Peace Conference,

Welcoming the outcome of the Arta peace process, led by Djibouti and sponsored by the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, which provides for the establishment of a transitional national parliament and the formation of a transitional national government,

Noting with appreciation that the mandate provided in the three-year transitional national charter emphasizes priorities, including reconciliation, demobilization of armed militia, restitution of properties to their lawful owners, holding of a national census, formulation of a new constitution, democratization, rehabilitation, recovery and reconstruction,

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[190] S/PRST/2001/30.

Welcoming the efforts of the Transitional National Government of Somalia to promote national reconciliation within Somalia, recognizing that progress has been achieved in some regions in re-establishing economic and administrative stability, and urging the Government, political and traditional leaders and factions to make every effort to complete, without preconditions, the peace and reconciliation process through dialogue and the involvement of all parties in a spirit of mutual accommodation and tolerance,

Noting with concern that the lack of effective civil institutions in Somalia continues to impede sustained comprehensive development and that, while the environment has become more conducive to some reconstruction and development-oriented work in certain parts of the country, the humanitarian and security situation has remained fragile in other parts,

Reaffirming its support for the joint strategy for targeted assistance of the United Nations system that is focused on the rehabilitation and reconstruction of infrastructure and on sustainable community-based activities, as well as for the importance it attaches to the need for effective coordination and cooperation among the United Nations agencies and their partners,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[191]

Deeply appreciative of the humanitarian assistance and rehabilitation support rendered by a number of States and relevant organizations to alleviate the hardship and suffering of the affected Somali population,

Recognizing that, while the humanitarian situation remains fragile in some parts of Somalia, there is a need to continue the ongoing rehabilitation and reconstruction process alongside the national reconciliation process, without prejudice to the provision of emergency relief assistance wherever and whenever required, as security allows,

Noting with appreciation that the prospects for humanitarian, rehabilitation and development activities have been more favourable in some parts of the country, owing to the formation of stronger administrative structures, the commitment shown to re-establishing the rule of law in general and the leadership shown by some regional authorities and by civil society groups in attempting to establish an inclusive alternative to the faction-ridden past of Somalia,

Noting with appreciation also the efforts of the United Nations system aimed at working directly with Somali communities at the local level, whenever possible, and emphasizing the need for coordination with the Transitional National Government and with local and regional authorities,

Welcoming the continued focus of the United Nations, in partnership with Somali elders, other local leaders and skilled local counterparts at the grass-roots level, concerned Somali organizations and professionals in the diaspora and non-governmental organizations, on a programme of assistance, including both humanitarian and developmental approaches, given the varying conditions in different areas,

Re-emphasizing the importance of the further implementation of its resolution 47/160 to rehabilitate basic social and economic services at the local and regional levels throughout the country,

1. *Expresses its gratitude* for the further implementation of its resolution 47/160 to rehabilitate basic social and economic services at the local and regional levels throughout the country;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his continued and tireless efforts to mobilize assistance to the Somali people;

3. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity, the League of Arab States, the European Union, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the countries members of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development and its Partners Forum, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and others to contribute positively to the reconciliation process in Somalia;

4. *Also welcomes* the strategy of the United Nations focusing on the implementation of community-based interventions aimed at rebuilding local infrastructures and increasing the self-reliance of the local population, and the ongoing efforts by the United Nations agencies, their Somali counterparts and their partner organizations to establish and maintain close coordination and cooperation mechanisms available for the implementation of relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes;

5. *Notes with appreciation* the holistic and prioritized approach of the United Nations system to addressing the continuing crisis in some parts of Somalia, while making long-term commitments to rehabilitation, recovery and development activities in more stable parts;

6. *Emphasizes* the principle that the Somali people have the primary responsibility for their own development and for the sustainability of rehabilitation and reconstruction assistance programmes, and reaffirms the importance it attaches to the creation of workable arrangements for collaboration between the United Nations system and its partner organizations and their Somali counterparts for the effective execution of rehabilitation and development activities in those parts of the country in which peace and security prevail;

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[191] A/56/389.

7. *Urges* all States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned to continue to implement further its resolution 47/160 in order to assist the Somali people in embarking on the rehabilitation of basic social and economic services, as well as institution-building aimed at the restoration of civil administration at all levels in all parts of the country in which peace and security prevail;

8. *Strongly urges* all political groups in Somalia, in particular those which have remained outside the Arta peace process, to participate in the ongoing peace process and to establish a constructive dialogue with the Transitional National Government in order to achieve national reconciliation that allows for transition from relief to reconstruction and development and preserves economic and administrative progress achieved in many regions;

9. *Calls upon* all parties, individual political leaders and factions in Somalia to respect fully the security and safety of personnel of the United Nations and the specialized agencies and of non-governmental organizations, and to guarantee their complete freedom of movement and safe access throughout Somalia;

10. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to continue to mobilize international humanitarian, rehabilitation and reconstruction assistance for Somalia;

11. *Calls upon* the international community to provide continuing and increased assistance in response to the United Nations Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeal for relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction assistance for Somalia;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in view of the critical situation in Somalia, to take all necessary measures for the implementation of the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session.

RESOLUTION 56/107

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.55 and Add.1, sponsored by: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Marshall Islands, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia

56/107. Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 and the guiding principles contained in the annex thereto, other relevant General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions and agreed conclusions of the Council,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[192]

Taking note also of the note by the Secretary-General on enhancing the functioning and utilization of the Central Emergency Revolving Fund,[193] submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session pursuant to its resolution 54/95 of 8 December 1999,

Recognizing the importance of the Revolving Fund as a cash-flow mechanism for a timely, prompt, effective and coordinated response by the organizations of the United Nations system,

Recognizing also that the pattern of utilization has been uneven in recent years and that there is a need to ensure that the Revolving Fund is used where the needs are greatest and most urgent,

1. *Welcomes* the holding of the fourth humanitarian affairs segment of the Economic and Social Council during its substantive session of 2001;

2. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council to continue to consider ways to enhance further the humanitarian affairs segment of future sessions of the Council;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of discussion of humanitarian policies and activities in the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council;

4. *Calls upon* relevant organizations of the United Nations system, other relevant international organizations, Governments and non-governmental organizations to cooperate with the Secretary-General and the Emergency Relief Coordinator to ensure timely implementation of and follow-up to agreed conclusions of the humanitarian affairs segment of the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council;

5. *Welcomes* the progress made by the Emergency Relief Coordinator and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat in strengthening the coordination of humanitarian assistance of the United Nations;

6. *Expresses its deepest appreciation* to those Governments that have contributed to the Central Emergency Revolving Fund;

7. *Encourages* better use of the Revolving Fund, and in that context endorses the proposal of the Secretary-General to expand the utilization of the Fund to include humanitarian assistance for natural disasters, humanitarian assistance for new requirements in protracted emergencies and emergency staff

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[192] A/56/95-E/2001/85.

[193] A/55/649.

safety arrangements for United Nations and associated personnel;

8. *Decides* that the expanded utilization of the Revolving Fund shall follow the same procedures and terms of reference that have been established in resolution 46/182 for advances and reimbursement of the resources of the Fund;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to inform Governments regularly about the use of the Revolving Fund and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the utilization of the Fund and on further possible improvements in its terms of reference in order to enhance its functioning and utilization, inter alia, in relation to the great need for urgent assistance in many underfunded, so-called forgotten emergencies;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session, through the 2002 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council, on progress made in strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations, including the implementation of and follow-up to relevant agreed conclusions of the Council and progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/108

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.56 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, France, Gabon, Guinea, India, Italy, Kenya, Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Oman, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Yemen, Zambia

56/108. Economic assistance for the reconstruction and development of Djibouti

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 54/96 C of 8 December 1999 and its previous resolutions on economic assistance to Djibouti,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[194]

Recalling further the Brussels Declaration[195] and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010,[196] adopted by the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries on 20 May 2001, as well as the mutual commitments undertaken on that occasion and the importance attached to follow-up and the implementation of the Programme of Action,

Aware that Djibouti is included in the list of least developed countries and that it is ranked 137th out of the 162 countries studied in the *Human Development Report 2001*,[197]

Noting that the economic and social development efforts of Djibouti are constrained by the extremes of the local climate, in particular cyclical droughts, and that the implementation of reconstruction and development programmes requires the deployment of substantial resources which exceed the capacity of the country,

Noting also that the situation in Djibouti has been made worse by the drought situation in the Horn of Africa, and noting further the presence of tens of thousands of refugees and persons displaced from their countries, which has placed serious strains on the fragile economic, social and administrative infrastructure of Djibouti and caused security problems in the country, in particular in the city of Djibouti,

Noting with satisfaction that the Government of Djibouti is continuing to implement a structural adjustment programme, and convinced of the necessity to support that financial recovery programme and to take effective measures to alleviate the consequences, in particular the social consequences, of that adjustment policy, so that the country may achieve lasting economic results,

Noting with gratitude the support provided to relief, demobilization and rehabilitation operations by various countries and by intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[198]

2. *Declares its solidarity* with the Government and the people of Djibouti, who continue to face critical challenges owing, in particular, to the scarcity of natural resources, harsh climatic conditions and the continuing critical situation in the Horn of Africa;

3. *Notes with concern* the cyclical drought phenomenon in Djibouti, which is wreaking a major humanitarian disaster upon tens of thousands of people, particularly those who are vulnerable, and requests the international community to respond to the appeal launched by the Government;

4. *Encourages* the Government of Djibouti, despite difficult economic and regional situations, to continue its serious efforts towards the consolidation of democracy;

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[194] See resolution 55/2.

[195] A/CONF.191/12.

[196] A/CONF.191/11.

[197] Published for the United Nations Development Programme by Oxford University Press, New York, 2001.

[198] A/56/264.

5. *Notes with satisfaction* the implementation of a structural adjustment programme by Djibouti, and in that context appeals to all Governments, international financial institutions, the specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to respond adequately to the financial and material needs of the country;

6. *Also notes with satisfaction* the general peace agreement concluded between the Government and the opposition on 12 May 2001;

7. *Considers* that the process of demobilization, reintegration and employment of demobilized soldiers is essential not only for national rehabilitation but also for the success of agreements with the international financial institutions and for the consolidation of peace, and that it requires substantial resources that exceed the capacity of the country;

8. *Expresses its gratitude* to the intergovernmental organizations and the specialized agencies of the United Nations for their contributions to the national rehabilitation of Djibouti, and invites them to continue their efforts;

9. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his continued efforts to make the international community aware of the difficulties faced by Djibouti;

10. *Notes with gratitude* Djibouti's support for regional peace efforts and its commitment to worldwide efforts to fight terrorism;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue, in close cooperation with the Government of Djibouti, his efforts to mobilize resources necessary for an effective programme of financial, technical and material assistance to Djibouti;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the progress made with regard to economic assistance to Djibouti and the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/109

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.57 and Add.1, sponsored by: Argentina, Armenia, Belarus, Bulgaria, China, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Georgia, Greece, Honduras, India, Israel, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Malta, Panama, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United States of America, Uzbekistan

56/109. Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 45/190 of 21 December 1990, 46/150 of 18 December 1991, 47/165 of 18 December 1992, 48/206 of 21 December 1993, 50/134 of 20 December 1995, 52/172 of 16 December 1997 and 54/97 of 8 December 1999, as well as resolution 55/171 of 14 December 2000 on closure of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, and taking note of the decisions adopted by the organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system in the implementation of those resolutions,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolutions 1990/50 of 13 July 1990, 1991/51 of 26 July 1991 and 1992/38 of 30 July 1992 and Council decision 1993/232 of 22 July 1993,

Conscious of the long-term nature of the consequences of the disaster at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, which was a major technological catastrophe in terms of its scope and complexity and created humanitarian, environmental, social, economic and health consequences and problems of common concern, requiring for their solution wide and active international cooperation and coordination of efforts in this field at the international and national levels,

Expressing profound concern at the ongoing effects of the consequences of the accident on the lives and health of people, in particular children, in the affected areas of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine, as well as in other affected countries,

Acknowledging the importance of the national efforts being undertaken by the Governments of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine to mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster,

Emphasizing that it is important for the authorities of the affected countries to cooperate fully in and facilitate efforts to mitigate the consequences of the Chernobyl catastrophe, including the efforts by non-governmental organizations in providing humanitarian assistance, and appreciating the progress already made in this regard,

Noting with appreciation the contribution made by States and by organizations of the United Nations system to the development of cooperation to mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, the activities of regional and other organizations and those of non-governmental organizations, as well as bilateral activities,

Recognizing the importance of continuing international support to the national efforts of the Governments and civil societies of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine, as the most affected countries, to mitigate and minimize the persisting negative effects of the Chernobyl disaster on the sustainable development of the affected areas as a result of the radiological, health, socio-economic, psychological and environmental consequences of the disaster,

Welcoming the increased role played by the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations resident coordinators and the United Nations country teams in Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine in helping to address both the developmental and the humanitarian consequences of the catastrophe,

Noting the United Nations needs-assessment mission to the affected areas of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine in July and August 2001, as well as the visit of the Deputy United Nations Coordinator of International Cooperation on Chernobyl to those countries in October 2001, and emphasizing the need to consider incorporation of their findings and outcomes into the new United Nations strategy to mitigate the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General concerning the implementation of resolution 54/97,[199]

1. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations plays an important catalytic and coordinating role in the strengthening of international cooperation to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, and commends the contribution made by all other relevant multilateral mechanisms to this end;

2. *Welcomes* the practical measures that have been taken by the Secretary-General and the United Nations Coordinator of International Cooperation on Chernobyl to strengthen coordination of the international efforts in that area, especially the appointment by the Secretary-General of the Assistant Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and Regional Director for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States as Deputy United Nations Coordinator of International Cooperation on Chernobyl;

3. *Also welcomes* the efforts undertaken by the agencies of the United Nations system, members of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Chernobyl to implement a new developmental approach to studying, mitigating and minimizing the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, and requests the Inter-Agency Task Force on Chernobyl to continue further its activities to that end;

4. *Emphasizes* the importance of full cooperation and assistance by the authorities of the affected countries in facilitating the work of humanitarian organizations, including non-governmental organizations, to mitigate the humanitarian consequences of the Chernobyl catastrophe, notes the measures already taken by the Governments of the affected countries in this regard, and encourages them to take further measures to simplify their relevant internal procedures and to identify ways in which their systems of granting exemption from customs and other duties can be made more effective with regard to goods provided free of charge as humanitarian assistance by humanitarian organizations, including non-governmental organizations;

5. *Acknowledges* the difficulties faced by the most affected countries in minimizing the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, and invites States, in particular donor States and all relevant agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, in particular the Bretton Woods institutions, as well as non-governmental organizations, to continue to provide support to the ongoing efforts of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine to mitigate the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, including through the allocation of additional funds to support medical, social, economic and ecological programmes related to the disaster;

6. *Notes* the appeal by the United Nations Coordinator to the donor community to consider allocating additional resources to the humanitarian aspects of the Chernobyl disaster;

7. *Stresses* the need for coordinated international cooperation in studying the consequences of the Chernobyl catastrophe, and invites Member States and all interested parties to take part in and to promote the activities of the International Chernobyl Centre for nuclear safety, radioactive waste and radioecology as an important mechanism of scientific research in the unique conditions of the Chernobyl zone and the Shelter facility;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts in the implementation of the relevant General Assembly resolutions and, through existing coordination mechanisms, in particular the United Nations Coordinator, to continue to maintain close cooperation with the agencies of the United Nations system, as well as with regional and other relevant organizations, while implementing specific Chernobyl-related programmes and projects;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to consider possible ways to strengthen further the coordination, analytical and technical capacities of the United Nations in the field, as well as at Headquarters, as described in the report of the Secretary-General,[199] with due regard to the existing administrative and budgetary procedures of the Organization;

10. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, under a separate sub-item, a report containing a comprehensive assessment of the implementation of all aspects of the present resolution and proposals for innovative measures for optimizing the effectiveness of the response of the international community to the Chernobyl disaster.

RESOLUTION 56/110

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.58 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Argentina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Japan, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United States of America, Yugoslavia

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[199] A/56/447.

56/110. Economic assistance to the Eastern European States affected by the developments in the Balkans

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/96 G of 15 December 1999 and 55/170 of 14 December 2000,

Recalling also the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe, adopted in Cologne, Germany, on 10 June 1999, and endorsed at the Sarajevo Summit of 30 July 1999, and emphasizing the crucial importance of its implementation,

Stressing the importance of the regional cooperation initiatives, assistance arrangements and organizations, such as the South-East European Cooperative Initiative, the South-East European Cooperation Process, the Central European Initiative, the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the Danube Commission, as well as the Stabilization and Association process and other arrangements for the Eastern European States with the European Union,

Noting the leading role played by the high-level steering group for South-Eastern Europe, under the joint chairmanship of the European Commission and the World Bank, in guiding the donor coordination process for the economic reconstruction, stabilization, reform and development of the region, in close cooperation with the Stability Pact,

Mindful of the positive results of the two regional funding conferences for South-Eastern Europe organized by the European Commission and the World Bank in cooperation with the Stability Pact, held in Brussels on 29 and 30 March 2000 and in Bucharest on 25 and 26 October 2001, and of the progress achieved in mobilizing and coordinating support of the donor community and international financial institutions for reconstruction and development efforts in South-Eastern Europe,

Welcoming the democratic changes in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and their positive effects on peace, stability and development in South-Eastern Europe,

Welcoming also the positive results of the International Donors Conference for the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, co-hosted by the World Bank and the European Commission in Brussels on 29 June 2001, and the progress achieved in mobilizing and coordinating support of the donor community and international financial institutions for the reconstruction and development of Yugoslavia,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General[200] and the conclusions contained therein,

1. *Expresses concern* at the persistence of special economic problems confronting the Eastern European States affected by the developments in the Balkans, in particular their impact on regional trade and economic relations and on the navigation along the Danube and on the Adriatic Sea;

2. *Welcomes* the support already provided by the international community, in particular by the European Union and other major donors, to the affected States to assist them in coping with their special economic problems during the transition period following the developments in the Balkans, as well as in the longer-term process of economic recovery, structural adjustment and development in the region;

3. *Also welcomes* the progress made in the implementation of the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe, the objective of which is to strengthen countries in South-Eastern Europe in their efforts to foster peace, democracy, respect for human rights and economic prosperity, in order to achieve stability in the whole region, and in its follow-up activities, aimed, inter alia, at economic reconstruction, development and cooperation, including economic cooperation in the region and between the region and the rest of Europe;

4. *Invites* all States and the relevant international organizations, both within and outside the United Nations system, in particular the international financial institutions, to continue to take into account the special needs and situations of the affected States in providing support and assistance to their efforts for economic recovery, structural adjustment and development;

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of a well-coordinated and timely donor response to the external funding requirements of the process for economic reconstruction, stabilization, reform and development in the Balkans, as well as financial support to other affected countries of Eastern Europe;

6. *Encourages* the affected States of the region to continue and enhance the process of multilateral regional cooperation in the fields of transport and infrastructure development, including the resumption of full navigation on the Danube, as well as to foster conditions favourable to trade, in such areas as customs, investment and private sector development, including privatization, in all the countries of the region;

7. *Invites* the relevant international organizations to take appropriate steps, consistent with the principle of efficient and effective procurement and with the agreed measures for procurement reform, in order to broaden access for interested local and regional vendors and to facilitate their participation in the international assistance efforts for the reconstruction, recovery and development of the region;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[200] A/56/632.

RESOLUTION 56/111

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.59 and Add.1, sponsored by: Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

56/111. Assistance to the Palestinian people

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/173 of 14 December 2000,

Recalling also previous resolutions on the question,

Welcoming the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993, between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people,[201] as well as the signing of the subsequent implementation agreements, including the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, in Washington, D.C., on 28 September 1995,[202] and the signing of the Sharm el-Sheikh Memorandum on 4 September 1999,

Gravely concerned at the difficult economic and employment conditions facing the Palestinian people throughout the occupied territory,

Conscious of the urgent need for improvement in the economic and social infrastructure of the occupied territory and the living conditions of the Palestinian people,

Aware that development is difficult under occupation and best promoted in circumstances of peace and stability,

Noting the great economic and social challenges facing the Palestinian people and their leadership,

Conscious of the urgent necessity for international assistance to the Palestinian people, taking into account the Palestinian priorities,

Noting the convening of the United Nations seminar on assistance to the Palestinian people, held in Vienna on 20 and 21 February 2001, to review the state of the Palestinian economy,[203]

Stressing the need for the full engagement of the United Nations in the process of building Palestinian institutions and in providing broad assistance to the Palestinian people, including assistance in the fields of elections, police training and public administration,

Noting the appointment by the Secretary-General of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority,

Welcoming the results of the Conference to Support Middle East Peace, convened in Washington, D.C., on 1 October 1993, and the establishment of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee and the work being done by the World Bank as its secretariat, as well as the establishment of the Consultative Group,

Welcoming also the work of the Joint Liaison Committee, which provides a forum in which economic policy and practical matters related to donor assistance are discussed with the Palestinian Authority,

Welcoming further the results of the Ministerial Conference to Support Middle East Peace and Development, held in Washington, D.C., on 30 November 1998, and expressing appreciation for the pledges of the international donor community,

Welcoming the meeting of the Consultative Group in Frankfurt, Germany, on 4 and 5 February 1999, in particular the pledges of the international donor community and the presentation of the Palestinian Development Plan for the years 1999–2003,

Welcoming also the meeting of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee held in Lisbon on 7 and 8 June 2000,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[204]

Expressing grave concern at the continuation of the recent tragic and violent events that have led to many deaths and injuries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[204]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his rapid response and efforts regarding assistance to the Palestinian people;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Member States, United Nations bodies and intergovernmental, regional and non-governmental organizations that have provided and continue to provide assistance to the Palestinian people;

4. *Stresses* the importance of the work of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority

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[201] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[202] A/51/889-S/1997/357, annex.

[203] See A/56/89-E/2001/89, annex.

[204] A/56/123-E/2001/97 and Corr.1.

and of the steps taken under the auspices of the Secretary-General to ensure the achievement of a coordinated mechanism for United Nations activities throughout the occupied territories;

5. *Urges* Member States, international financial institutions of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and regional and interregional organizations to extend, as rapidly and as generously as possible, economic and social assistance to the Palestinian people, in close cooperation with the Palestine Liberation Organization and through official Palestinian institutions;

6. *Calls upon* relevant organizations and agencies of the United Nations system to intensify their assistance in response to the urgent needs of the Palestinian people in accordance with Palestinian priorities set forth by the Palestinian Authority, with emphasis on national execution and capacity-building;

7. *Urges* Member States to open their markets to exports of Palestinian products on the most favourable terms, consistent with appropriate trading rules, and to implement fully existing trade and cooperation agreements;

8. *Calls upon* the international donor community to expedite the delivery of pledged assistance to the Palestinian people to meet their urgent needs;

9. *Stresses* in this context the importance of ensuring the free passage of aid to the Palestinian people and the free movement of persons and goods;

10. *Urges* the international donor community, United Nations agencies and organizations and non-governmental organizations to extend as rapidly as possible emergency economic and humanitarian assistance to the Palestinian people to counter the impact of the current crisis;

11. *Stresses* the need to implement the Paris Protocol on Economic Relations of 29 April 1994, fifth annex to the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip,[202] in particular with regard to the full and prompt clearance of Palestinian indirect tax revenues;

12. *Suggests* the convening in 2002 of a United Nations-sponsored seminar on assistance to the Palestinian people;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the present resolution, containing:

(*a*) An assessment of the assistance actually received by the Palestinian people;

(*b*) An assessment of the needs still unmet and specific proposals for responding effectively to them;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the sub-item entitled "Assistance to the Palestinian people".

RESOLUTION 56/112

Adopted at the 87th plenary meeting, on 14 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.60 and Add.1, sponsored by: Burkina Faso, Guinea, India, Morocco, Syrian Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Yemen

56/112. Emergency assistance to the Sudan

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 54/96 J of 17 December 1999 and its previous resolutions on emergency assistance to the Sudan,

Reaffirming its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 on strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance of the United Nations,

Bearing in mind its resolution 55/175 of 19 December 2000 on the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel,

Welcoming agreed conclusions 1998/1 of the Economic and Social Council, adopted by the Council at the humanitarian segment of its substantive session of 1998,[205] in which, among other things, the Council reaffirmed that international cooperation to address emergency situations should be provided in accordance with international law and national laws, and that the affected State has the primary role in the initiation, organization, coordination and implementation of humanitarian assistance within its territory,

Welcoming also agreed conclusions 1999/1 of the Economic and Social Council,[206] in which the Council addressed the theme of "International cooperation and coordinated responses to humanitarian emergencies, in particular in the transition from relief to rehabilitation, reconstruction and development", during its second humanitarian segment,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on humanitarian assistance to the Sudan,[207]

Welcoming the decision of the Government of the Sudan to provide access to the Nuba Mountains and recent efforts towards its implementation, noting in that regard the results of the inter-agency needs-assessment mission undertaken by the United Nations, and calling upon all parties to continue to cooperate with the United Nations in meeting the needs identified in that assessment,

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[205] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/53/3), chap. VII, para. 5.

[206] Ibid., *Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/54/3/Rev.1), chap. VI, para. 5.

[207] A/56/412.

Noting with concern existing obstacles to the delivery of humanitarian assistance, welcoming the agreements reached by the parties to Operation Lifeline Sudan, among them the Rome protocol, and noting the arrangements reached on 15 August 2001 between the Government of the Sudan and the United Nations inter-agency mission on the modalities of access for the Operation, aimed at facilitating delivery of relief assistance to affected populations, as well as the progress made by the Emergency Relief Coordinator and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat in strengthening the coordination of the Operation,

Urging United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations and donor countries to continue contributing and channelling their humanitarian assistance to all affected populations in the Sudan through Operation Lifeline Sudan,

Expressing concern at the continued conflict in the Sudan and its negative impact on the humanitarian situation,

Noting the ongoing peace efforts under the auspices of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, and the initiative of Egypt and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for achieving a negotiated and lasting peace in the Sudan,

Noting with appreciation the contributions for the inter-agency appeal for Operation Lifeline Sudan and the progress made in the Operation, and noting also that considerable relief needs still remain to be addressed, including assistance to combat diseases such as malaria and assistance for logistic needs, emergency recovery, rehabilitation and development,

Expressing concern at the damaging consequences of floods and drought that have occurred in various parts of the Sudan in recent years,

Calling for an early resolution to the conflict, and expressing concern that its continuation further increases the suffering of the civilian population and undermines the effectiveness of international, regional and national humanitarian assistance,

Reaffirming the need for all parties to continue to facilitate the work of humanitarian organizations in implementing emergency assistance, in particular the supply of food, medicine, shelter and health care, and to ensure safe and unhindered access to all affected populations,

Recognizing the need in emergency situations to ensure the smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation and development so as to reduce dependence on external food aid and other relief services,

1. *Acknowledges with appreciation* the cooperation by the Government of the Sudan with the United Nations, including the agreements and arrangements achieved to facilitate relief operations with a view to improving the conditions for United Nations assistance to the population in the affected areas, encourages the continuation of that cooperation, and calls upon all parties to the conflict to agree to comprehensive and permanent humanitarian ceasefire arrangements in order to ensure the delivery of relief assistance;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the donor community, United Nations agencies and governmental and non-governmental organizations for the contributions so far made to the humanitarian needs of the Sudan, and calls upon them to continue their assistance, in particular by responding to the consolidated appeal and providing support for programmes in the Nuba Mountains;

3. *Stresses* the need for Operation Lifeline Sudan to be operated and managed with a view to ensuring its efficiency, transparency and effectiveness, with the full involvement and cooperation of the Government of the Sudan, taking cognizance of the relevant Operation Lifeline Sudan agreements reached by the parties, as well as consultations in the preparation of the consolidated annual inter-agency appeal for the Operation;

4. *Recognizes* the need for Operation Lifeline Sudan to be conducted in strict adherence to the principles of neutrality and impartiality and within the principles of national sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Sudan, and within the framework of international cooperation, in accordance with the relevant provisions of international law;

5. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to contribute generously to the emergency needs, recovery and development of the Sudan, and urges all parties to the conflict to facilitate the achievement of those objectives;

6. *Urges* the international community to give assistance for the rehabilitation of transportation means and infrastructure vital for the provision of relief supplies in the Sudan and their cost-effectiveness, and in that context stresses the importance of continued cooperation by all the parties involved so as to facilitate and improve the delivery of relief supplies;

7. *Calls upon* the donor community and the organizations of the United Nations system to provide financial, technical and medical assistance, guided by the actions called for by the General Assembly in its relevant resolutions, to combat such diseases as malaria and other epidemics in the Sudan;

8. *Welcomes* the recent visit, upon invitation from the Government of the Sudan, of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons, as well as the commitment of the Government to continue its efforts to address the problem of internally displaced persons;

9. *Urges* the international community to continue to support national and international programmes of rehabilitation,

voluntary resettlement and reintegration of returnees and internally displaced persons, as well as assistance to refugees;

10. *Stresses* the imperative of ensuring the safety and security of humanitarian personnel, as well as safe and unhindered access for providing relief assistance to all affected populations, and the importance of strict observance of the principles and guidelines of Operation Lifeline Sudan, and of international humanitarian law reaffirming the necessity for humanitarian personnel to respect the national laws of the Sudan;

11. *Recognizes* the need for a peaceful resolution to the conflict, and urges the parties to work towards that end;

12. *Urges* all parties involved to continue to offer all feasible and necessary assistance, including facilitating the movement of relief supplies and personnel, so as to guarantee the success of Operation Lifeline Sudan in all affected parts of the country, with special emphasis on national capacity-building in the humanitarian field for governmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as on meeting emergency relief needs;

13. *Calls upon* all parties to respect international humanitarian law on the protection of civilians during times of war, and in that connection condemns attacks against civilians and attacks against and detention of humanitarian personnel, including the incidents leading to the deaths of fifteen humanitarian workers in the last two years, and calls for appropriate investigations into all allegations surrounding such incidents;

14. *Recalls* the signing by the Government of the Sudan of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction,[208] urges all parties to the conflict to desist from using them, calls upon the international community to refrain from supplying mines to the region, and urges the international community and United Nations agencies to provide appropriate assistance related to mine action in the Sudan;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to mobilize and coordinate resources and support for Operation Lifeline Sudan, and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the emergency situation in the affected areas and the recovery, rehabilitation and development of the Sudan.

RESOLUTION 56/215

Adopted at the 91st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.65 and Add.1, sponsored by: Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United States of America, Yugoslavia

56/215. The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/24 of 14 November 2000 and all previously adopted resolutions, as well as all relevant resolutions of the Security Council, regarding the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina,

Reaffirming its support for the independence, sovereignty, legal continuity and territorial integrity of Bosnia and Herzegovina, within its internationally recognized borders, and also reaffirming its support for the equality of the three constituent peoples and others in Bosnia and Herzegovina as a united country, with two multi-ethnic entities, according to the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the annexes thereto (collectively the "Peace Agreement"), signed in Paris on 14 December 1995,[209] which constitute the key mechanism for the achievement of a durable and just peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina,

Noting the significant progress that has been made since 1995 in implementing the provisions of the Peace Agreement, strengthening the rule of law in all of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and consolidating Bosnia and Herzegovina as a modern democratic State and civic society, fully respectful of the rule of law and committed to encouraging economic growth and promoting well-being for all its citizens,

Welcoming the commitment of the Government to speeding up the overall process of the reconstruction and democratization of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and noting the gradual progress that has been made in the development of efficient common institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina,

Noting that corruption and the lack of transparency seriously hamper the economic development of Bosnia and Herzegovina, reiterating the need to combat all corruption, welcoming the important contribution made in that regard by the Customs and Fiscal Assistance Office, and expressing its full support for the efforts of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina and local bodies and of others that are supportive in that regard,

Welcoming the overall progress that has been made in supporting the return of refugees to all parts of the country, and reaffirming the most important principle that all who were forced to leave should feel free and secure to return to their homes,

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[208] See CD/1478.

[209] A/50/790-S/1995/999.

Noting the importance for the future of Bosnia and Herzegovina for prosecutors to conclude successfully their investigation of war crimes and the whereabouts of those still missing after the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as the importance of full cooperation with the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991, especially with regard to surrendering all already indicted war criminals to the Tribunal,

Welcoming the efforts of the High Representative for the Implementation of the Peace Agreement on Bosnia and Herzegovina, reaffirming the fundamental importance of strengthening all aspects of the rule of law, and noting in that regard the ruling of the Constitutional Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina on the equality of the three constituent peoples throughout the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina and progress made by the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina in ensuring a fully representative police force, free of corruption and dedicated to enforcing the laws of the country in an impartial way,

Reaffirming the importance for the future of Bosnia and Herzegovina of its successful integration into Europe, noting in that regard the progress made in fulfilling the conditions for entry into the Council of Europe, especially the adoption of the electoral law, welcoming the progress made in fulfilling conditions towards participation in the European Union Stabilization and Association Agreement, and stressing that the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe provides an additional contribution to the improvement of regional cooperation,

Welcoming the significant improvement of the overall mutual cooperation among the successor States of former Yugoslavia and the region as a whole, also welcoming the Memorandum of Understanding on intraregional trade liberalization signed on 27 June 2001 in Brussels, the agreement reached in Vienna regarding the succession of former Yugoslavia and its implementation, and underlining the importance of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and Bosnia and Herzegovina,

Reaffirming the need to combat corruption, smuggling, human trafficking, organized crime, and extremism and other illegal activities, and noting in that regard the establishment of the State Border Service, which is expected to be completed in 2002,

Recognizing the importance of demining and assistance to mine victims for the safety of citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and for the return of refugees and internally displaced persons,

Welcoming the achievements, and encouraging further efforts, in reducing military assets in line with the Agreement on Subregional Arms Control, welcoming the finalizing of the negotiations led by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe within the framework of article V of annex 1-B of the Peace Agreement, and emphasizing the importance of the declaration issued by the Joint Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina to commence the process of the formal admission of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the Partnership for Peace,

1. *Notes* that it is the people and the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina who are ultimately responsible for the future of the country, and urges them to work rapidly and intently on economic reform, refugee returns, joint State institution-building and full respect for the rule of law;

2. *Calls* for the full and early implementation of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the annexes thereto (collectively the "Peace Agreement")[209] which is essential for stability and cooperation in the region and the reintegration of Bosnia and Herzegovina at all levels;

3. *Welcomes* the progress that has been made towards the implementation of the Peace Agreement by the Government and its commitment to the full, comprehensive and consistent implementation thereof;

4. *Also welcomes* the prompt action of the State and entity institutions in adopting the comprehensive plan of action to prevent terrorist activities, increase security and protect people and property in Bosnia and Herzegovina, further welcomes the active role of Bosnia and Herzegovina in global efforts against terrorism, and in that regard calls upon Bosnia and Herzegovina to work with the international community to establish the State Border Service and have it fully deployed by the end of 2002, in accordance with the time frame of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina;

5. *Supports fully* the efforts of the High Representative for the Implementation of the Peace Agreement on Bosnia and Herzegovina, in accordance with the Peace Agreement and subsequent declarations of the Peace Implementation Council, and notes the continuing need for the High Representative to use fully the authority of his office to deal with obstructionists, reaffirming the concept of "partnership" between the newly elected authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the international community;

6. *Encourages* the political leadership of Bosnia and Herzegovina to extend cooperation with the States of South-Eastern Europe so as to promote and strengthen stability and confidence in the region;

7. *Urges* the entity parliaments and cantonal assemblies to implement promptly and fully the provisions of the ruling of the Constitutional Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina on the equality of all three constituent peoples throughout the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and also urges the Constitutional Court to rule further on the status of those other than the three constituent peoples;

8. *Demands* that all the parties to the Peace Agreement fulfil their obligations towards the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991, and encourages the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina to develop, in close cooperation with the international community, national court capacities to investigate and prosecute cases of war crimes;

9. *Urges* Member States, taking into account the orders and requests of the International Tribunal, to cooperate fully with it, in particular with regard to surrendering indictees, and to provide adequate financial support to the Tribunal;

10. *Reaffirms* the right of refugees and displaced persons to return voluntarily to their homes of origin in accordance with annex 7 of the Peace Agreement, encourages the acceleration of the peaceful, orderly and phased return of refugees and displaced persons, including in areas where they would be the ethnic minority, strongly condemns all acts of intimidation, violence and killings, including those acts designed to discourage the voluntary return of refugees and displaced persons, demands that such acts be investigated and prosecuted, supporting the effective engagement of the Commission for Real Property Claims of Displaced Persons and Refugees, and calls upon all sides to implement the property laws imposed on 27 October 1999, in particular by evicting illegal occupants from the homes of returning refugees, and to ensure respect for individual rights to return and the establishment of the rule of law;

11. *Encourages* all concerned parties to provide information on all persons unaccounted for through the tracing mechanisms of the International Committee of the Red Cross and to cooperate fully with the Committee in its efforts to determine the identities, whereabouts and fate of those persons;

12. *Welcomes* the efforts of international and regional organizations, Member States and non-governmental organizations in Bosnia and Herzegovina, including through the Board of Donors and the Slovenian International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance, and calls upon Member States to continue to support mine-action activities in Bosnia and Herzegovina;

13. *Stresses* the importance of establishing, strengthening and expanding throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina a free and pluralistic media, and deplores any actions that seek to intimidate or restrict the freedom of the media;

14. *Also stresses* the importance of the restoration and rebuilding of the historical and cultural heritage of Bosnia and Herzegovina in its original form;

15. *Further stresses* the need for a more comprehensive approach to implementing economic reforms, and underlines the fact that a self-sustainable, market-oriented economy operating in a single economic space, expeditious and transparent privatization, improved banking and capital markets, reformed financial systems, the provision of adequate social protection and the adoption by both entities of a law on pension reforms that meet economic standards are crucial for achieving lasting peace and stability in Bosnia and Herzegovina;

16. *Supports* the efforts by the High Representative and the Commander of the multinational Stabilization Force to weaken the continued political and economic influence of remaining parallel structures obstructing peace implementation;

17. *Notes* that the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina have defined the common defence policy of Bosnia and Herzegovina, affirming the importance for the national development of Bosnia and Herzegovina of creating, on the basis of agreed principles, a joint military command and seeking to establish a military structure of the appropriate size based on future projections and the legitimate security needs of Bosnia and Herzegovina which will contribute to regional security, and encourages them to carry out its conclusions promptly, fully and in full accordance with the Peace Agreement;

18. *Commends* the efforts of the international community, recognizes the continued importance of its role, welcomes its readiness to continue and streamline its efforts towards a self-sustainable peace, and recalls that the responsibility for consolidating peace and security lies with the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

19. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina".

RESOLUTION 56/216

Adopted at the 91st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, by a recorded vote of 123 to none, with 4 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.66 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uzbekistan, Yugoslavia, and the amendment in document A/56/L.67, submitted by Azerbaijan

* *In favour:* Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia,

Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: None

Abstaining: Armenia, Belarus, South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania

56/216. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

The General Assembly,

Recalling the framework for cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, which was signed on 26 May 1993,[210] as well as its resolutions on cooperation between the two organizations,

Recalling also the principles embodied in the Helsinki Final Act and in the declaration at the 1992 Helsinki Summit by the heads of State or Government of the participating States of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe of their understanding that the Conference is a regional arrangement in the sense of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations and as such provides an important link between European and global security,[211]

Acknowledging the increasing contribution of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to the establishment and maintenance of international peace and security in its region through activities in early warning and preventive diplomacy, including through the activities of the High Commissioner on National Minorities, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation, as well as arms control and disarmament,

Recalling the Charter for European Security adopted at the Summit in Istanbul, Turkey, in November 1999, which reaffirms the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe as a primary organization for the peaceful settlement of disputes within its region and as a key instrument for early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation,

Recalling also the special ties between the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Mediterranean Partners for Cooperation, as well as between that organization and the Asian Partners for Cooperation, Japan, the Republic of Korea and Thailand, which have been enhanced further in 2001,

Underlining the continued importance of enhanced cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;[212]

2. *Notes with appreciation* the further improvement of cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and its agencies and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, including at the level of activities in the field;

3. *Welcomes*, in this context, the meetings of the Secretary-General of the United Nations with the Chairman-in-Office and the Secretary-General of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the participation of the Chairman-in-Office at a meeting of the Security Council in January 2001, the participation of the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva in a meeting of the Ministerial Council of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, which was held in Bucharest on 3 and 4 December 2001, and the participation of high-level United Nations representatives in meetings of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe;

4. *Encourages* further efforts of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to foster security and stability in its region through early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation, as well as through continued promotion of democracy, the rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedoms;

5. *Welcomes* the documents of the meeting of the Ministerial Council in Bucharest confirming the determination of the participating States of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to strengthen and deepen their cooperation with a view to protecting their citizens from new challenges to their security while safeguarding the rule of law, individual liberties and the right to equal justice under the law;

6. *Commends* the adoption of the decision and Action Plan on Terrorism, whereby participating States pledged to reinforce and develop bilateral and multilateral cooperation among themselves, with the United Nations and with other international and regional organizations in order to combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomever committed, to contribute to the fulfilment of international obligations as enshrined, inter alia, in Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) of 28 September 2001, to act in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and to become parties to all twelve United Nations conventions and protocols related to terrorism as soon as possible;

7. *Notes* the review of the structures of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, undertaken at the initiative of the Romanian Chairmanship, with the goal of strengthening its efficiency, and the adoption of decisions to foster its role as a forum for political dialogue on

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[210] A/48/185, annex II, appendix.

[211] See A/47/361-S/24370, annex.

[212] A/56/125.

issues of security and cooperation in Europe which promotes a more effective use of the means and mechanisms of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to counter threats and challenges to security and stability in its region;

8. *Welcomes* the decisions to strengthen cooperation in the economic and environmental sphere and to enhance the role of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in police-related activities;

9. *Also welcomes* the documents of the Ministerial Council meeting in Bucharest on enhancing the effectiveness of the human dimension meetings of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, promoting tolerance and non-discrimination, combating trafficking in human beings, improving the situation of Roma and Sinti, and on promoting equal opportunities for women and men and the continued close cooperation between the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

10. *Notes with appreciation* the active involvement of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and its commitment to continue to contribute substantially to conflict prevention, crisis management, and post-conflict stabilization in the region, thereby fostering peace and stability in the area;

11. *Welcomes* the establishment and the work of the Mission of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to assist further progress in the consolidation of democracy, the strengthening of the rule of law and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the rights of persons belonging to national minorities;

12. *Expresses its appreciation* for the contribution by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to implementing Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) of 10 June 1999, in particular for its substantial role in the preparation and organization of the Kosovo-wide election on 17 November 2001, in view of the consolidation of stability and prosperity in Kosovo, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, on the basis of substantial autonomy, respecting the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, pending a final settlement, in accordance with resolution 1244 (1999);

13. *Salutes* the commitment of participating States of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to the sovereignty, territorial integrity and unitary character of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and their offer to assist and support strongly the full and timely implementation of the Framework Agreement concluded on 13 August 2001, including the programmes on police training and reform, media and inter-ethnic relations;

14. *Supports* the priorities of the work of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe for the continuous development of civil society and for increasing local ownership of the reform process in Bosnia and Herzegovina;

15. *Commends* the efforts to improve the coordination and efficiency of international engagement in the field of civilian implementation of the Dayton/Paris peace accords,[213] as well as a timely decision on the best options for the succession of the United Nations International Police Task Force to allow for a smooth and comprehensive transition;

16. *Underlines* the importance of regional cooperation as a means of fostering good-neighbourly relations, stability and economic development, welcomes the implementation of the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe under the auspices of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe as an important long-term and comprehensive initiative to promote good-neighbourly relations, stability and economic development, and also welcomes the commitment of participating States of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to contribute further to the goals of the Stability Pact;

17. *Notes* the efforts undertaken in 2001 by the Republic of Moldova and the mediators of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Russian Federation and Ukraine towards negotiation for a comprehensive political settlement of the Transdniestrian issue, based on full respect of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova, welcomes the fulfilment by the Russian Federation, ahead of the agreed time, of the commitments undertaken at the summit of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe held in Istanbul, Turkey, in 1999 on the withdrawal and disposal of the equipment limited by the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe[214] located in the Transdniestrian region of the Republic of Moldova by the end of 2001, and encourages the timely fulfilment of other commitments concerning the Republic of Moldova undertaken by the participating States of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in Istanbul in 1999;

18. *Welcomes* the developments in the peace process in the Tshkhinvali region/South Ossetia, Georgia, and the steps to reduce the quantities of small arms and light weapons in that region, as well as the progress made in 2001 towards meeting the commitments made in Istanbul on the future of Russian forces in Georgia, including the closure of the Russian base at Vaziani and the withdrawal of the equipment from the Russian

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[213] General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the annexes thereto, initialled in Dayton, United States of America, on 21 November 1995 and signed in Paris on 14 December 1995 (A/50/790-S/1995/999).

[214] CD/1064.

base at Gudauta, encourages the implementation of the other Istanbul commitments, and with regard to Abkhazia, Georgia, calls for the resumption of a constructive dialogue aimed at achieving a comprehensive settlement, including a definition of the political status of Abkhazia as a sovereign entity within the State of Georgia;

19. *Acknowledges* the significant contribution to stability and confidence in the region made by the border monitoring operation of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe along the border between Georgia and the Chechen Republic of the Russian Federation;

20. *Notes with satisfaction* the engagement of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe towards cooperation with the five participating States of Central Asia, which has continued to grow in all dimensions, thus contributing to stability and prosperity in the region, as well as the commitment of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to assist in addressing specific threats to stability and security for the Central Asian participating States, and appreciates the valuable contribution of the Bishkek International Conference on enhancing security and stability in Central Asia, held on 13 and 14 December 2001, to addressing those problems, which are shared concerns among the participating States of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe;

21. *Fully supports* the activities of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to achieve a peaceful solution to the conflict in and around the Nagorny-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan, and welcomes cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in this regard;

22. *Expresses deep concern* at the failure to achieve a settlement of the Nagorny-Karabakh conflict despite the intensified dialogue between the parties and the active support of the Co-Chairmen of the Minsk Group of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, reaffirms that the prompt resolution of that protracted conflict will contribute to lasting peace, security, stability and cooperation in the South Caucasus region, reiterates the importance of continuing the peace dialogue, calls upon the sides to continue their efforts to achieve an early resolution of the conflict based on the norms and principles of international law, encourages the parties to explore further measures that would enhance mutual confidence and trust, including the release of prisoners of war, welcomes the commitment of the parties to the ceasefire and to achieving a peaceful and comprehensive settlement, and encourages the parties to continue their efforts, with the active support of the Co-Chairmen, to reach a just and enduring settlement;

23. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/217

Adopted at the 91st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.64 and Add.1, sponsored by: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Togo, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Yugoslavia

56/217. Safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 on strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions 53/87 of 7 December 1998, 54/192 of 17 December 1999 and 55/175 of 19 December 2000 on safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel, as well as resolutions 52/167 of 16 December 1997 on safety and security of humanitarian personnel and 52/126 of 12 December 1997 on protection of United Nations personnel,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the protection of civilians in armed conflict[215] and of Security Council resolutions 1265 (1999) of 17 September 1999 and 1296 (2000) of 19 April 2000 and the recommendations made therein, as well as the statements by the President of 30 November 1999, on the role of the Security Council in the prevention of armed conflicts,[216] 13 January 2000, on humanitarian assistance to refugees in Africa,[217] 9 February 2000, on protection of United Nations personnel, associated personnel and humanitarian personnel in conflict zones,[218] and 9 March 2000, on humanitarian aspects of issues before the Security Council,[219] and in this context also noting the range of views expressed during all open debates of the Security Council on these issues,

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[215] S/2001/331.

[216] S/PRST/1999/34; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1999.*

[217] S/PRST/2000/1; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 2000.*

[218] S/PRST/2000/4; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 2000.*

[219] S/PRST/2000/7; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 2000.*

Taking note also of the report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations,[220] as well as the report of the Special Committee[221] on the report of the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations[222] and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the report of the Panel,[223]

Reaffirming the need to promote and ensure respect for the principles and rules of international humanitarian law,

Deeply concerned by the growing number of complex humanitarian emergencies in the past few years, in particular in armed conflicts and in post-conflict situations, which have dramatically increased the loss of human lives, in particular of civilians, the suffering of victims, flows of refugees and internally displaced persons, as well as material destruction, which disrupt the development efforts of the countries affected, in particular those of developing countries,

Concerned by the increasingly difficult context in which humanitarian assistance takes place in some areas, in particular the continuous erosion, in many cases, of respect for the principles and rules of international humanitarian law,

Deeply concerned by the dangers and security risks faced by humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel at the field level, and mindful of the need to improve the current security management system in order to improve their safety and security,

Strongly deploring the rising toll of casualties among national and international humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflicts and in post-conflict situations,

Strongly condemning the acts of murder and other forms of violence, rape and sexual assault, intimidation, armed robbery, abduction, hostage-taking, kidnapping, harassment and illegal arrest and detention to which those participating in humanitarian operations are increasingly exposed, as well as attacks on humanitarian convoys and acts of destruction and looting of their property,

Strongly condemning also all incidents in many parts of the world in which humanitarian personnel have been deliberately targeted, and expressing profound regret at the deaths of all United Nations and other personnel involved in the provision of humanitarian assistance,

Reaffirming that ensuring the safety and security of United Nations personnel constitutes an underlying duty of the Organization, which must be based on a necessary cost-sharing arrangement with the relevant agencies, funds and programmes within the United Nations system,

Recalling that primary responsibility under international law for the security and protection of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel lies with the Government hosting a United Nations operation conducted under the Charter of the United Nations or its agreements with relevant organizations,

Urging all other parties involved in armed conflicts, in compliance with international humanitarian law, in particular their obligations under the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[224] and the obligations applicable to them under the Additional Protocols thereto, of 8 June 1977,[225] to ensure the security and protection of all humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel,

Expressing concern that the occurrence of attacks and threats against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel is a factor that increasingly restricts the ability of the Organization to provide assistance and protection to civilians in fulfilment of its mandate and Charter,

Recalling the inclusion of attacks intentionally directed against personnel involved in a humanitarian assistance or peacekeeping mission in accordance with the Charter as a war crime in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, adopted on 17 July 1998,[226] and noting the role that the Court could play in appropriate cases in bringing to justice those responsible for serious violations of international humanitarian law,

Noting that the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel, which entered into force on 15 January 1999,[227] has been ratified by fifty-five Member States as at the present date,

Mindful of the need to promote universality of the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel,

Reaffirming the fundamental requirement that appropriate modalities for the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel be incorporated into all new and ongoing United Nations field operations,

Increasingly concerned at the need to ensure adequate levels of safety and security for United Nations personnel and humanitarian personnel and a culture of accountability at all levels, from the highest to the lowest, throughout the United Nations system, and in this regard commending the recent efforts by the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes aimed at the improvement of security management and training of their personnel,

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[220] A/55/1024 and Corr.1.

[221] A/C.4/55/6.

[222] See A/55/305-S/2000/809.

[223] A/55/502.

[224] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[225] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

[226] A/CONF.183/9.

[227] Resolution 49/59, annex.

Commending the courage and commitment of those who take part, often at great personal risk, in humanitarian operations, especially of locally recruited staff,

Guided by the relevant provisions on protection contained in the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations of 13 February 1946,[228] the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies of 21 November 1947,[229] the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel, the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949[230] and the Additional Protocols to the Geneva Conventions, and Amended Protocol II of 3 May 1996[231] to the Convention on Prohibitions and Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects of 10 October 1980,[232]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel;[233]

2. *Urges* all States to take the necessary measures to ensure the full and effective implementation of the relevant principles and rules of international law, including international humanitarian law, as well as the relevant provisions of human rights and refugee law related to the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations personnel;

3. *Also urges* all States to take the necessary measures to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel and to respect and ensure respect for the inviolability of United Nations premises, which are essential to the continuation and successful implementation of United Nations operations;

4. *Calls upon* all Governments and parties in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflicts and in post-conflict situations, in countries in which humanitarian personnel are operating, in conformity with the relevant provisions of international law and national laws, to cooperate fully with the United Nations and other humanitarian agencies and organizations and to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel in order to allow them to perform efficiently their task of assisting the affected civilian population, including refugees and internally displaced persons;

5. *Strongly condemns* any act or failure to act, contrary to international law, which obstructs or prevents humanitarian personnel and United Nations personnel from discharging their humanitarian functions, or which entails being subjected to threats, the use of force or physical attack, frequently resulting in injury or death, and affirms the need to hold accountable those who commit such acts and, for that purpose, the need to enact national legislation, as appropriate;

6. *Urges* all States to ensure that any threat or act of violence committed against humanitarian personnel on their territory is fully investigated and to take all appropriate measures, in accordance with international law and national law, to ensure that the perpetrators of such acts are duly prosecuted;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to ensure full respect for the human rights, privileges and immunities of United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation and to continue to consider ways and means in which to strengthen the protection of United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation, notably by seeking the inclusion, in negotiations of headquarter and other mission agreements concerning United Nations and associated personnel, of the applicable conditions contained in the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[228] the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies[229] and the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel;[227]

8. *Emphasizes* the importance of paying special attention to the safety and security of United Nations and associated personnel engaged in United Nations peacekeeping and peace-building operations;

9. *Recommends* that the Secretary-General continue to seek the inclusion of relevant provisions of the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel in the status-of-forces or status-of-mission agreements concluded by the United Nations;

10. *Calls upon* all States to provide adequate and prompt information in the event of arrest or detention of humanitarian personnel or United Nations personnel, to afford them the necessary medical assistance and to allow independent medical teams to visit and examine the health of those detained, and urges them to take the necessary measures to ensure the speedy release of United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation who have been arrested or detained in violation of their immunity, in accordance with the relevant conventions referred to in the present resolution and applicable international humanitarian law;

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[228] Resolution 22 A (I).

[229] Resolution 179 (II).

[230] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[231] CCW/CONF.I/16 (Part I), annex B.

[232] See *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 5, 1980 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.IX.4), appendix VII.

[233] A/56/384 and Corr.1.

11. *Underlines* the need to allocate adequate and predictable resources to the safety and security of United Nations personnel;

12. *Calls upon* all other parties involved in armed conflicts, in compliance with international humanitarian law, in particular their obligations under the 1949 Geneva Conventions[224] and the obligations applicable to them under the Additional Protocols thereto,[225] to ensure the safety and protection of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, to refrain from abducting or detaining them in violation of their immunity under relevant conventions referred to in the present resolution and applicable international humanitarian law, and speedily to release, without harm, any abductee or detainee;

13. *Encourages* all States to become parties to and respect fully their obligations under the relevant international instruments, including the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel;

14. *Calls upon* all States to consider becoming parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;[226]

15. *Reaffirms* the obligation of all humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel to observe and respect the national laws of the country in which they are operating, in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations;

16. *Calls upon* all States to promote a climate of respect for the security of United Nations and humanitarian personnel;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures, falling within his responsibilities, to ensure that security matters are an integral part of the planning for existing and newly mandated United Nations operations and that such precautions extend to all United Nations and associated personnel;

18. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to ensure that United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation are properly informed about the conditions under which they are called upon to operate, including relevant customs and traditions in the host country, and the standards that they are required to meet, including those contained in relevant domestic and international law, and that adequate training in security, human rights and international humanitarian law is provided so as to enhance their security and effectiveness in accomplishing their functions, and reaffirms the necessity for all other humanitarian organizations to provide their personnel with similar support;

19. *Emphasizes* the need to give further consideration to the safety and security of locally recruited humanitarian personnel, who account for the majority of casualties, and United Nations and associated personnel;

20. *Requests* the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator to continue to play a central role in promoting increased cooperation and collaboration among agencies, funds and programmes in the planning and implementation of measures aimed at improving staff security training and awareness;

21. *Stresses* the need to ensure that all United Nations staff members receive adequate security training, including physical and psychological training, prior to their deployment to the field, the need to attach a high priority to the improvement of stress and trauma counselling services available to United Nations staff members, including through the implementation of a comprehensive security and stress and trauma management training, support and assistance programme for United Nations staff throughout the system, before, during and after missions, and the need to make available to the Secretary-General the means for this purpose;

22. *Encourages* all States to contribute to the Trust Fund for Security of Staff Members of the United Nations System;

23. *Reaffirms* the need to strengthen the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator, and in this regard reiterates the need for the appointment of a full-time Security Coordinator, at the appropriate level, so as to enable the Office to enhance its capacity in the discharge of its duties, in consultation with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and appropriate agencies within the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, and calls for expeditious consideration of this recommendation;

24. *Recognizes* the need for a strengthened and comprehensive security management system for the United Nations system, both at the headquarters and the field level, and requests the United Nations system, as well as Member States, to take all appropriate measures needed to that end;

25. *Also recognizes* the need for enhanced coordination and cooperation, both at the headquarters and the field level, between the United Nations security management system and non-governmental organizations on matters relating to the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, with a view to addressing mutual security concerns in the field;

26. *Welcomes* the establishment, in accordance with resolution 56/89 of 12 December 2001, of an Ad Hoc Committee open to all Member States or members of the specialized agencies or of the International Atomic Energy Agency, to consider the recommendations made by the Secretary-General in his report on measures to strengthen and enhance the protective legal regime for United Nations and associated personnel;[234]

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[234] See A/55/637.

27. *Calls upon* all States to consider becoming parties to and to respect fully their obligations under the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies, which have been ratified so far by one hundred and forty-five States and one hundred and seven States, respectively;

28. *Recalls* the essential role of telecommunication resources in facilitating the safety of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, calls upon States to consider signing and ratifying the Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations of 18 June 1998,[235] and encourages them, pending the entry into force of the Convention, to facilitate, consistent with their national laws and regulations, the use of communications equipment in such operations;

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-seventh session a comprehensive, updated report on the safety and security situation of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel and on the implementation of the present resolution, including the progress made by the Secretary-General in pursuing accountability and assessing responsibility for all individual security incidents that involve United Nations and associated personnel at all levels throughout the United Nations system, as well as an account of the measures taken by Governments and the United Nations to prevent and respond to such incidents.

RESOLUTION 56/218

Adopted at the 91st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.61 and Add.1, as orally revised, sponsored by: Algeria, Angola, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Zambia, Zimbabwe

56/218. Final review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s

The General Assembly,

Having considered the note by the Secretary-General on the final review and appraisal of the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s,[236]

Reaffirming its resolutions 46/151 of 18 December 1991, the annex to which contains the New Agenda, and 51/32 of 6 December 1996, which states that the final review and appraisal of the New Agenda will be conducted in 2002,

Reaffirming also its resolutions 48/214 of 23 December 1993, 49/142 of 23 December 1994, 53/90 of 7 December 1998 and 55/216 of 21 December 2000 on the implementation of the New Agenda,

Reaffirming further its resolutions 54/234 of 22 December 1999 and 55/217 of 21 December 2000 on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa, and recalling its requests in resolutions 54/234 and 55/216 to conduct the final review and appraisal of the New Agenda and related initiatives on the basis of a report by the Secretary-General on an independent high-level quality evaluation,

Mindful of the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2001 of the Economic and Social Council on the role of the United Nations in support of the efforts of African countries to achieve sustainable development, adopted on 18 July 2001,[237] with particular reference to paragraph 26, and the agreed conclusions 1999/2 adopted by the Economic and Social Council, at its substantive session of 1999, on coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system related to the theme "Development of Africa: implementation and coordinated follow-up by the United Nations system of initiatives on African development",[238]

Mindful also of the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[239] in particular paragraph 60,

1. *Decides* to establish an ad hoc committee of the whole of the General Assembly as the most appropriate mechanism to conduct the final review and appraisal of the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and related initiatives;

2. *Decides also* to convene an organizational session of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole in June 2002 for one working day to consider and adopt the necessary arrangements for its work regarding, inter alia, the final review and appraisal of the implementation of the New Agenda and related initiatives

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[235] United Nations Treaty registration No. 27688.

[236] A/56/270.

[237] A/56/3, chap. III, para. 29. For the final text see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 3.*

[238] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/54/3/Rev.1), chap. V, para. 6.

[239] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

on Africa, and decides that the Ad Hoc Committee should establish its bureau at the highest appropriate level, to be composed of a chairman, the President of the General Assembly, assisted by three vice-chairmen and a rapporteur, appointed by the President in consultation with Member States;

3. *Decides further* that the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole should meet in substantive session for a period of five working days, from 9 to 13 September 2002, and for three working days from 7 to 9 October 2002, during the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly, to conduct the final review and appraisal of the implementation of the New Agenda and related initiatives on the basis of the report of the Secretary-General on the independent high-level quality evaluation, as mandated in Assembly resolutions 54/234 and 55/216 and in agreed conclusions 1999/2 of the Economic and Social Council,[238] and on other documents that the Ad Hoc Committee will have decided to make use of at its organizational session in June 2002, as well as on proposals by the Secretary-General on the modalities of the United Nations future engagement with the New Partnership for Africa's Development;

4. *Decides* that a high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly should be held on 16 September 2002 to consider how to support the New Partnership for Africa's Development, in line with paragraph 5 of the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2001 of the Economic and Social Council,[237] which called on the United Nations system and the international community to support the New African Initiative, now called the New Partnership for Africa's Development, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, at its thirty-seventh ordinary session, held at Lusaka from 9 to 11 July 2001,[240] and that preparations for the plenary meeting should be made during the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly;

5. *Urges* Member States and organs and bodies of the United Nations system to ensure that they are represented at the highest appropriate level on, and to participate actively in the work of, the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole and in the plenary meeting;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the organs and organizations of the United Nations system concerned, to ensure the necessary preparations for the meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the work of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole, including on the plenary meeting, and on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/219

Adopted at the 91st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.63/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Monaco, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Yugoslavia, Zambia

56/219. Assistance in mine action

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/7 of 19 October 1993, 49/215 of 23 December 1994, 50/82 of 14 December 1995, 51/149 of 13 December 1996 and 52/173 of 18 December 1997, on assistance in mine clearance, and its resolutions 53/26 of 17 November 1998, 54/191 of 17 December 1999 and 55/120 of 6 December 2000, on assistance in mine action, all adopted without a vote,

Considering mine action to be an important component of United Nations humanitarian and development activities,

Reaffirming its deep concern at the tremendous humanitarian and development problems caused by the presence of mines and other unexploded ordnance that constitute an obstacle to the return of refugees and other displaced persons, to humanitarian aid operations and to reconstruction and economic development, as well as to the restoration of normal social conditions, and that have serious and lasting social and economic consequences for the populations of mine-affected countries,

Bearing in mind the serious threat that mines and other unexploded ordnance pose to the safety, health and lives of local civilian populations, as well as of personnel participating in humanitarian, peacekeeping and rehabilitation programmes and operations,

Reiterating its dismay at the high number of victims of mines, especially among civilian populations, including women and children, and recalling in this context Commission on Human Rights resolutions 1995/79 of 8 March 1995,[241] 1996/85 of 24 April 1996,[242] 1997/78 of

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[240] See A/56/457, annex I, AHG/Decl. 1 (XXXVII).

[241] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/1995/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[242] Ibid., *1996, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/1996/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

18 April 1997,[243] 1998/76 of 22 April 1998,[244] 1999/80 of 28 April 1999,[245] 2000/85 of 27 April 2000[246] and 2001/75 of 25 April 2001,[247] on the rights of the child, and resolutions 1996/27 of 19 April 1996,[242] 1998/31 of 17 April 1998,[244] 2000/51 of 25 April 2000[246] and decision 1997/107 of 11 April 1997,[248] on the human rights of persons with disabilities,

Deeply alarmed by the number of mines that continue to be laid each year, as well as the presence of a large number of mines and other unexploded ordnance as a result of armed conflicts, and thus convinced of the necessity and urgency of a significant increase in mine-clearance efforts by the international community with a view to eliminating the threat of landmines to civilians as soon as possible,

Noting the inclusion in Amended Protocol II[249] to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects[250] of a number of provisions of importance for mine-clearance operations, notably the requirement of detectability, and provision of information and technical and material assistance necessary to remove or otherwise render ineffective existing minefields, mines and booby traps, and noting also that Amended Protocol II to the Convention entered into force on 3 December 1998,

Noting also the conclusions and recommendations adopted at the Second Annual Conference of the States Parties to Amended Protocol II to the Convention, held in Geneva from 11 to 13 December 2000,[251]

Recalling that the States parties at the First Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention declared their commitment to keep the provisions of the Protocol under review in order to ensure that the concerns regarding the weapons it covers are addressed, and that they would encourage the efforts of the United Nations and other organizations to address all problems related to landmines,

Noting that the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction[252] entered into force on 1 March 1999 and that the Convention has been accepted formally by one hundred and twenty-two States and signed but not yet ratified by an additional twenty States,

Noting also the conclusions of the Third Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention, held in Managua from 18 to 21 September 2001, taking note of the reaffirmed commitments that were made, among other things, to provide assistance for mine clearance and rehabilitation, the social and economic reintegration of mine victims and mine-awareness programmes and to eradicate anti-personnel mines, and taking note also of the work of the intersessional programme established by States parties to the Convention,

Stressing the need to convince mine-affected States to halt new deployments of anti-personnel mines in order to ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of mine-clearance operations,

Recognizing the important role that the international community, in particular States involved in the deployment of mines, can play in assisting mine clearance in mine-affected countries by providing necessary maps and information and appropriate technical and material assistance to remove or otherwise render ineffective existing minefields, mines and booby traps,

Concerned at the limited availability of safe and cost-effective mine-detection and mine-clearance equipment, as well as the need for effective global coordination in research and development to improve the relevant technology, and conscious of the need to promote further and more rapid progress in this field and to foster international technical cooperation to this end,

Concerned also at the limited availability of the technical, material and financial resources needed to meet the cost associated with mine-clearance activities in mine-affected countries,

Recognizing that, in addition to the primary role of States, the United Nations has an important role to play in the field of assistance in mine action,

Reaffirming the need to reinforce international cooperation in the area of mine action and to devote the necessary resources to that end,

Concerned at the critical financial situation of the Mine Action Service of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat,

Welcoming the mine-action coordination centres already established under the auspices of the United Nations, as well as the creation of international trust funds for mine clearance and other mine-action activities,

Noting with satisfaction the inclusion in the mandates of several peacekeeping operations of provisions relating to mine-action work carried out under the direction of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, in the context of such operations,

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[243] Ibid., *1997, Supplement No. 3* (E/1997/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[244] Ibid., *1998, Supplement No. 3* (E/1998/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[245] Ibid., *1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[246] Ibid., *2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[247] Ibid., *2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[248] Ibid., *1997, Supplement No. 3* (E/1997/23), chap. II, sect. B.

[249] CCW/CONF.I/16 (Part I), annex B.

[250] See *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 5: 1980 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.IX.4), appendix VII.

[251] See CCW/AP.II/CONF.2/1.

[252] See CD/1478.

Commending the action already taken by the United Nations system, donor and recipient Governments, the International Committee of the Red Cross and non-governmental organizations to coordinate their efforts and seek solutions to the problems related to the presence of mines and other unexploded ordnance, as well as their assistance to victims of mines,

Welcoming the role of the Secretary-General in increasing public awareness of the problem of landmines,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on assistance in mine action;[253]

2. *Calls*, in particular, for the continuation of the efforts of the United Nations, with the assistance of States and institutions as appropriate, to foster the establishment of mine-action capacities in countries where mines constitute a serious threat to the safety, health and lives of the local population or an impediment to social and economic development efforts at the national and local levels, emphasizes the importance of developing national mine-action capacities, and urges all Member States, in particular those that have the capacity to do so, to assist mine-affected countries in the establishment and development of national capacities in mine clearance, mine awareness and victim assistance;

3. *Invites* Member States to develop and support national programmes, in cooperation with the relevant bodies of the United Nations system where appropriate, to promote awareness of landmines, especially among women and children;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to Governments, regional organizations and other donors for their financial and in-kind contributions to mine action, including contributions for emergency operations and for national capacity-building programmes;

5. *Appeals* to Governments, regional organizations and other donors to continue, and whenever possible increase, their support to mine action through further contributions, including contributions through the Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Action, to allow for the timely delivery of mine-action assistance in emergency situations;

6. *Encourages* all relevant multilateral and national programmes and bodies to include, in coordination with the United Nations, activities related to mine action in their humanitarian, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development assistance activities, where appropriate, bearing in mind the need to ensure national ownership, sustainability and capacity-building;

7. *Stresses* the importance of international support for emergency assistance to victims of mines and for the care and rehabilitation and social and economic reintegration of the victims, and also stresses that such assistance should be integrated into broader public health and socio-economic strategies;

8. *Encourages* Governments, relevant United Nations bodies and other donors to take further action to promote gender- and age-appropriate mine-awareness programmes, victim assistance and child-centred rehabilitation, thereby reducing the number of child victims and relieving their plight;

9. *Emphasizes again* the important role of the United Nations in the effective coordination of mine-action activities, including those by regional organizations, and especially the role of the Mine Action Service of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat, and stresses the need for the continuous assessment of this role by the General Assembly;

10. *Emphasizes* in this regard the role of the Mine Action Service as the focal point for mine action within the United Nations system and its ongoing collaboration with and coordination of all the mine-related activities of the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes;

11. *Notes with appreciation* the mine-action strategy covering the period 2001–2005 submitted by the Secretary-General,[254] requests him to optimize it by seeking and taking into account the views of Member States and taking into consideration the impact of the landmine problem on rehabilitation, reconstruction and development, with a view to ensuring the effectiveness of assistance in mine action by the United Nations, emphasizes in this respect the importance of further multisectoral assessments and surveys better to define the nature, scope and impact of the landmine problem in affected countries and to support the establishment of clear priorities and national plans of action, notes with appreciation in this regard the ongoing development by the United Nations of International Mine Action Standards to support the safe and effective conduct of mine-action activities, emphasizes the need for an inclusive process to be followed in the development of such standards, and encourages the Secretary-General to circulate the completed standards as a United Nations document to all Member States;

12. *Takes note with appreciation* of the Information Management Policy For Mine Action submitted by the Secretary-General, and emphasizes in this context the importance of developing a comprehensive information management system for mine action, following an inclusive process, under the overall coordination of the Mine Action Service and with the support of the Geneva International Centre

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[253] A/56/448 and Add.1 and 2.

[254] A/56/448/Add.1.

for Humanitarian Demining, in order to facilitate the coordination of field activities and the setting of priorities therein;

13. *Welcomes* in this respect the development of an Electronic Mine Information Network to support the role of the United Nations as a repository of mine-related information and to serve as a gateway to all relevant data made available by Member States and regional, governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations for mine action;

14. *Also welcomes* recent approaches with regard to the establishment of mine-action coordination centres, encourages the further establishment of such centres, especially in emergency situations, and also encourages States to support the activities of mine-action coordination centres and trust funds established to coordinate assistance in mine action under the auspices of the Mine Action Service;

15. *Encourages* the ongoing development of an emergency response plan by the United Nations to respond to emergency mine-action requirements, and emphasizes the need for such a plan to build upon all existing capacities;

16. *Urges* Member States and regional, governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations to continue to extend full assistance and cooperation to the Secretary-General and, in particular, to provide him with information and data, as well as other appropriate resources that could be useful in strengthening the coordination role of the United Nations in mine action, in particular in the fields of mine awareness, training, surveying, detection and clearance, scientific research on mine-detection and mine-clearance technology and information on and distribution of medical equipment and supplies;

17. *Emphasizes* in this regard the importance of recording the location of mines, of retaining all such records and making them available to concerned parties upon cessation of hostilities, and welcomes the strengthening of the relevant provisions in international law;

18. *Calls upon* Member States, especially those that have the capacity to do so, to provide the necessary information and technical, financial and material assistance, as appropriate, and to locate, remove, destroy or otherwise render ineffective existing minefields, mines, booby traps and other devices in accordance with international law, as soon as possible;

19. *Urges* Member States and regional, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations that have the ability to do so to provide, as appropriate, technological assistance to mine-affected countries and to promote scientific research and development on humanitarian mine-action techniques and technology so that mine-action activities may be carried out more effectively at lower costs and through safer means and to promote international collaboration in this regard;

20. *Encourages* Member States and regional, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations to continue to support ongoing activities to promote appropriate technology, as well as international operational and safety standards for humanitarian mine-action activities;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the progress achieved on all relevant issues outlined both in his previous reports to the Assembly on assistance in mine clearance and mine action and in the present resolution, including the progress made by the International Committee of the Red Cross and other international and regional organizations as well as national programmes, and on the operation of the Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Action and other mine-action programmes;

22. *Invites* the Secretary-General to continue to study how to secure a more sound financial basis for the Mine Action Service and to present options to this effect to the General Assembly;

23. *Also invites* the Secretary-General further to study ways and means of increasing public awareness of the impact of the problem of landmines and other unexploded ordnance on affected countries and to present options to this effect to the General Assembly;

24. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Assistance in mine action".

RESOLUTIONS 56/220 A and B

Adopted at the 91st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.62 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, San Marino, Senegal, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Yugoslavia

56/220. Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan and the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security

A

THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/174 A of 19 December 2000 and all its previous relevant resolutions,

Recalling also all relevant Security Council resolutions and statements by the President of the Council on the situation in Afghanistan, in particular resolutions 1267 (1999) of 15 October 1999, 1333 (2000) of 19 December 2000, 1378 (2001) of 14 November 2001 and 1383 (2001) of 6 December 2001,

Reaffirming its continued strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national unity of Afghanistan, and respecting its multicultural, multi-ethnic and historical heritage,

Reaffirming its condemnation of the use of Afghan territory for terrorist activities and the exporting of international terrorism from Afghanistan, and welcoming the successful efforts of the Afghan people to remove the Taliban regime, as well as the terrorist organizations it hosted, and to decide their own future,

Expressing its appreciation and strong support for the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General, his Special Representative and the head of the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan to promote peace and a lasting political settlement in Afghanistan,

Convinced that the main responsibility for finding a political solution lies ultimately with the Afghan people themselves, and strongly welcoming and endorsing therefore the agreement reached among various Afghan groups in Bonn, Germany, on 5 December 2001,[255]

Convinced also that only a political settlement aimed at the establishment of a broad-based, gender-sensitive, multi-ethnic and fully representative government, which respects the human rights of all Afghans and the international obligations of Afghanistan and is committed to peace with its neighbours, can lead to durable peace and reconciliation,

Reiterating that the United Nations must continue to play its central and impartial role in the international efforts towards a peaceful resolution of the Afghan conflict as well as in efforts to provide humanitarian assistance, to provide for rehabilitation and reconstruction and to facilitate the orderly return of refugees, and therefore endorsing the request to the United Nations by the participants at the United Nations-sponsored talks on Afghanistan contained in annex III to the Bonn agreement,

Recognizing that the collapse of the Afghan economy requires, in addition to emergency assistance, integrated and multi-sectoral programmes of rehabilitation and reconstruction with a view to ensuring economic and social recovery and the sustainable development of the country, and that a strong international commitment to this end can serve as an incentive for the Afghan groups to implement the Bonn agreement,

Deeply concerned by the grave humanitarian situation and the serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law in Afghanistan, especially against women and children, committed, in particular, by the Taliban, and recognizing that the accountability of perpetrators of grave human rights violations is a key factor in ensuring reconciliation and stability,

Deeply disturbed by the use of Afghan territory for the cultivation, production and trafficking of narcotic drugs, which has dangerous repercussions in the region and far beyond,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[256]

2. *Expresses its concern* that the unstable situation in Afghanistan poses a continuing risk to peace and stability in the region, and expresses its determination to assist the efforts of the interim authority to prevent the use of Afghan territory for international terrorism;

3. *Calls upon* all Afghan groups to cooperate fully with the United Nations and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General to promote peace and a lasting political settlement in Afghanistan;

4. *Strongly supports* the efforts of the Afghan people, consistent with the agreement reached in Bonn, Germany,[255] to establish an interim authority, leading, through the convening of loya jirgas and free and fair elections, to the formation of a new government, which should all be broad-based, multi-ethnic, fully representative and committed to peace with Afghanistan's neighbours;

5. *Calls upon* all Afghan groups, in particular the interim authority, to implement the Bonn agreement fully;

6. *Strongly supports* the enhanced role of the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan in helping the interim authority to implement the Bonn agreement until it is integrated in a new United Nations mission in Afghanistan;

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[255] Agreement on Provisional Arrangements in Afghanistan Pending the Re-establishment of Permanent Government Institutions (see S/2001/1154).

[256] A/56/681-S/2001/1157.

7. *Supports* the efforts of groups of interested States and international organizations, underlines the importance of ensuring complementarity among these efforts, and towards this end calls upon all parties to coordinate closely with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General;

8. *Strongly urges* all Afghan groups to refrain from acts of reprisal, to respect human rights and to adhere to their obligations under international humanitarian law;

9. *Stresses* the importance of the full, equal and effective participation of women in civil, cultural, economic, political and social life and decision-making processes throughout the country at all levels, and calls upon all Afghan groups to protect and promote the equal rights of men and women, especially in the fields of education, work and health care;

10. *Calls upon* the international community to reinforce assistance to alleviate the urgent humanitarian needs of Afghanistan and, as long as the interim authority fulfils its commitments, to support generously post-conflict rehabilitation and reconstruction;

11. *Calls upon* all concerned countries to continue to provide assistance and protection to Afghan refugees and internally displaced persons in need of it and to work with the United Nations to facilitate their orderly return and effective reintegration, in safety and dignity, as soon as conditions permit;

12. *Calls upon* the interim authority to respect fully the international obligations of Afghanistan with regard to narcotic drugs, and calls upon the international community to increase its assistance for programmes aimed at reducing poppy cultivation in Afghanistan, including capacity-building for drug control, drug control monitoring systems and crop substitution programmes, as part of a comprehensive food security strategy and drug demand reduction support;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly every three months during its fifty-sixth session on the progress of the United Nations and the efforts of his Special Representative to promote peace in Afghanistan, and to report to the Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security".

B

EMERGENCY INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR PEACE, NORMALCY AND RECONSTRUCTION OF WAR-STRICKEN AFGHANISTAN

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/174 B of 19 December 2000 and all its previous relevant resolutions,

Strongly welcoming the successful conclusion of the agreement reached among various Afghan groups in Bonn, Germany, on 5 December 2001,[255]

Expressing its grave concern at the decades of conflict in Afghanistan, which has caused massive loss of life, extensive human suffering, destruction of property, serious damage to the economic and social infrastructure, refugee flows and other forcible displacements of large numbers of people,

Mindful of the fact that Afghanistan is highly vulnerable to natural disasters and that it is currently affected by the worst drought in living memory,

Remaining deeply concerned at the problem of millions of anti-personnel landmines and unexploded ordnance, which constitutes a great danger for the civilian population and a major obstacle to the return of refugees and displaced populations, to the resumption of agricultural activities, to the provision of humanitarian assistance and to future rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts,

Noting with deep concern that the majority of the Afghan people are still unable to enjoy fully their human rights and fundamental freedoms owing to policies and practices, particularly of the Taliban, aimed at discriminating against or marginalizing parts of the population, in particular women and children, a situation which is exacerbated by the effects of war, poverty and profound underdevelopment,

Expressing its deep concern at widespread violations of international humanitarian and human rights law committed by Afghan groups, and in this regard reminding all Afghan groups of their commitment to respect human rights in the country as contained in the Bonn agreement,

Deeply disturbed by the continuing security threat to humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, including locally recruited staff,

Expressing its appreciation to the Afghan staff of the United Nations and other humanitarian organizations, who have continued to provide assistance to vulnerable populations throughout the current crisis,

Noting with grave concern that limited access to certain areas of Afghanistan and inadequate conditions for the delivery of aid threatens the well-being of internally displaced persons and vulnerable sections of the civilian population,

Recognizing that a secure environment is absolutely necessary for the safe and effective delivery and distribution of humanitarian assistance,

Welcoming the timely preparation of operational plans by the United Nations in response to the latest humanitarian crisis, and affirming the urgent need to reinforce international emergency assistance to Afghanistan in order to alleviate the human suffering and restore basic services, *Recognizing* the need to develop and implement a comprehensive strategy and process for a seamless connection between humanitarian relief and the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Afghanistan in a timely manner, with particular emphasis on all aspects of sustainable development, including vulnerability reduction and mitigation, and the promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Stressing the importance of a well-coordinated approach to implementing such a strategy, and welcoming in this respect the appointment of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan as the coordinator for the United Nations system,

Noting with deep concern that a significant number of Afghan refugees remain in neighbouring countries, as conditions in many parts of Afghanistan are still not conducive to a safe and sustainable return of the majority of refugees, and acknowledging that those refugees constitute a continuing socio-economic burden for the host countries,

Expressing its gratitude to all Governments that have rendered assistance to Afghan refugees, as well as to the Governments of neighbouring countries that continue to host Afghan refugee populations, and at the same time once again calling upon all parties to continue to fulfil their obligations for the protection of refugees and internally displaced persons and to allow international access for their protection and care,

Expressing its appreciation to the United Nations system and to all States and international and non-governmental organizations that have responded positively and continue to respond, where conditions permit, to the humanitarian needs of Afghanistan, as well as to the Secretary-General for his efforts in mobilizing and coordinating the delivery of appropriate humanitarian assistance,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[257] and endorses the observations contained therein;

2. *Stresses* that the responsibility for the solution of the humanitarian crisis lies above all with the Afghan people themselves, and urges them to attach the highest priority to national reconciliation;

3. *Urges* all Afghan groups to call a complete halt to the use of landmines and to cooperate fully with the United Nations Mine Action Programme;

4. *Calls upon* all relevant organizations of the United Nations system to continue to coordinate closely their humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan on the basis of the principles laid out in the Strategic Framework for Afghanistan, and appeals to donor countries as well as other humanitarian organizations to cooperate closely with the United Nations, taking into account the priorities and requirements outlined in the donor alert and subsequent appeals;

5. *Stresses* the coordinating role of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan for the United Nations system in the development and implementation of a strategy and process for a seamless connection between humanitarian relief and the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Afghanistan, including the cooperation of the United Nations system with the international community, in particular those countries actively engaged in humanitarian assistance and reconstruction efforts in Afghanistan, as well as the international financial institutions;

6. *Supports* the efforts of the Emergency Relief Coordinator in coordinating humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan, underlines the continuing relevance of coordination structures in place for Afghanistan, encourages agencies to build upon them in response to the current crisis, and also encourages the humanitarian community to strengthen the coordination of their assistance to Afghanistan through existing mechanisms, including donor coordination through the Afghan Support Group;

7. *Welcomes* the designation by the Secretary-General of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to lead the early recovery efforts in Afghanistan, and invites the relevant United Nations organizations and agencies, as well as the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the Islamic Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank and relevant non-governmental organizations, to develop jointly, in close collaboration with the interim authority and Afghan civil society, a comprehensive strategy and process for the early recovery and reconstruction efforts in Afghanistan, to be implemented where and when conditions permit;

8. *Encourages*, in this regard, all parts of the United Nations system to work together closely on the relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts in order to ensure a smooth transition from relief to development in Afghanistan;

9. *Calls upon* the international community to ensure, within the implementation of such a comprehensive strategy for the reconstruction and rehabilitation of Afghanistan, adequate and effective measures, inter alia, for demining, disaster reduction and the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of combatants;

10. *Strongly condemns* all acts of violence and intimidation directed against United Nations and other humanitarian personnel, and regrets the loss of life and physical harm suffered among the Afghan staff;

11. *Urges* all Afghan groups to respect international humanitarian law, to ensure the safety, security and free movement of all United Nations and humanitarian personnel, as well as their safe and unimpeded access to all affected populations, and to protect the property of the United Nations and of humanitarian organizations, including non-governmental

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[257] A/56/687.

organizations, against, inter alia, looting and theft, so as to facilitate their work;

12. *Encourages* the Afghan groups to facilitate the operations of the United Nations and other humanitarian organizations, and urges them to cooperate fully and without discrimination on grounds of gender, nationality or religion with the United Nations and associated bodies, as well as with other agencies and humanitarian organizations, to refrain from all interference in the delivery of humanitarian relief supplies and to guarantee the secure and uninterrupted supply of humanitarian aid to all vulnerable populations;

13. *Strongly condemns* discrimination against women and girls as well as ethnic and religious groups, including minorities, which adversely affects, inter alia, international relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts in Afghanistan, and emphasizes the importance of actively involving all elements of Afghan society, in particular women, in the development and implementation of relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes;

14. *Calls upon* all Afghan groups to respect fully the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all, without discrimination of any kind, including on the basis of gender, ethnicity or religion, and in accordance with their obligations under international law, and to protect and promote the equal rights of women and men;

15. *Urges* all Afghan groups to refrain from the recruitment or use of children in armed conflicts contrary to international standards and to take all necessary measures for the demobilization and social reintegration of war-affected children;

16. *Stresses* the responsibility of all Afghan groups to facilitate the provision of efficient and effective remedies to the victims of grave violations and abuses of human rights and international humanitarian law and to bring the perpetrators to justice in accordance with international standards;

17. *Appeals* to all States and to the international community to ensure that all humanitarian assistance and future rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes integrate a gender perspective, that they actively attempt to promote the participation of both women and men, and that women benefit equally with men from those programmes;

18. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Governments that continue to host Afghan refugees, urges the Governments concerned to fulfil their obligations under international refugee law with respect to the protection of refugees and the right to seek asylum, and calls upon the international community to do likewise;

19. *Recognizes* the large number of refugees in neighbouring countries, and calls upon the international community to consider providing further assistance in support of Afghan refugees;

20. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Governments of neighbouring States hosting United Nations agencies for their cooperation, and calls upon them to continue to facilitate the work of those United Nations humanitarian operations which are temporarily based on their territory in order to ensure an efficient delivery of emergency aid into Afghanistan;

21. *Urgently appeals* to all States, the United Nations system and international and non-governmental organizations to continue to provide, in close collaboration with the interim authority and Afghan civil society, when conditions on the ground permit, all possible humanitarian, financial, technical and material assistance for the Afghan population, especially in the areas most affected by the drought, as well as assistance to promote the voluntary, safe and dignified return of refugees and internally displaced persons;

22. *Calls upon* the international community to respond generously to the donor alert, future consolidated appeals as well as long-term interventions towards rehabilitation and reconstruction, and in this respect invites Member States to participate actively in the ministerial level meeting on reconstruction assistance to be held in Japan in January 2002;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the actions taken pursuant to the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/221

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Credentials Committee (A/56/724)

56/221. Credentials of representatives to the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Credentials Committee[258] and the recommendation contained therein,

Approves the report of the Credentials Committee.

RESOLUTION 56/222

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.7, submitted by the President of the General Assembly

56/222. Special session of the General Assembly on children

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/26 of 20 November 2000, in which it decided to convene the special session of the General

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[258] A/56/724.

Assembly for follow-up to the World Summit for Children from 19 to 21 September 2001, and to refer to it as the "special session on children",

Recalling also its decision 56/401 of 12 September 2001, by which it decided to postpone the special session on children until a date to be decided by the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session,

1. *Decides* to convene the special session of the General Assembly on children from 8 to 10 May 2002;

2. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children".

RESOLUTION 56/223

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.42/Rev.1, sponsored by: Austria, Belgium, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela

56/223. United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/177 of 19 December 2000, in which it decided to authorize the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala from 1 January to 31 December 2001,

Taking into account the fact that the Government of Guatemala has expressed its commitment to the full implementation of the peace agreements,

Underlining the fact that substantive aspects of the peace agreements have yet to be implemented and that the Commission to Follow up the Implementation of the Peace Agreements has approved a new schedule for their implementation from 2000 until the end of 2004,

Taking into account that the parties have requested the United Nations to support the consolidation of the peace-building process until 2003,[259]

Taking into account also the twelfth report of the Mission on human rights,[260]

Taking into account further the sixth report of the Secretary-General on the verification of compliance with the peace agreements,[261]

Taking into account the report of the Commission for Historical Clarification,[262]

Stressing the positive role played by the Mission in support of the Guatemala peace process, and emphasizing the need for the Mission to continue to enjoy the full support of all parties concerned,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Mission,[263]

1. *Welcomes* the twelfth report of the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala on human rights;[260]

2. *Also welcomes* the sixth report of the Secretary-General on the verification of compliance with the peace agreements;[261]

3. *Recalls* the report of the Commission for Historical Clarification[262] and the recommendations contained therein;

4. *Welcomes* the commitment made by the Government of Guatemala to the full implementation of the peace agreements through the adoption of social policies anchored to the agreements;

5. *Recalls* that the Commission to Follow up the Implementation of the Peace Agreements has rescheduled the pending commitments and included others not initially scheduled;

6. *Takes note* of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General[263] aimed at ensuring that the Mission can respond adequately to the demands of the peace process until 31 December 2002, as well as of his proposals relating to the changes in the structure and staffing of the Mission for the period 2001–2003;

7. *Also takes note* of the agreement reached by the parties regarding the importance of the continuing presence of the Mission in Guatemala until 2003;

8. *Notes with satisfaction* the progress made in the implementation of the peace agreements, in particular the partial fulfilment of the Fiscal Pact for a Future with Peace and Development which establishes the basis for increased public spending on the peace agenda and paves the way for the modernization of the economic system, and stresses the need to complete its implementation, in particular as regards measures to enhance public confidence in Government spending;

9. *Also notes with satisfaction* the significant reforms introduced in labour laws and the reinforcement of the operational capacities, training and full deployment of the National Civil Police;

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[259] See A/55/389, para. 9.

[260] A/56/273, annex.

[261] A/55/973.

[262] A/53/928, annex.

[263] A/56/391.

10. *Underlines with concern* the fact that key commitments remain outstanding in the areas of fiscal, judicial, military, electoral and land reform, as well as decentralization and rural development, and therefore urges that those commitments be implemented without further delay;

11. *Notes* that the consolidation of the peace-building process remains a significant challenge that requires a concerted national effort to guarantee the irreversibility of the peace process;

12. *Also notes* that the present Government has taken a significant step forward by signing and ratifying various important international human rights instruments;

13. *Encourages* the Government to implement the recommendations contained in the reports of the Mission on human rights, in particular those related to the systematic impunity for crimes and human rights violations and the alarming increase in incidents directed at individuals working on human rights and judicial issues;

14. *Underlines* the importance of implementing fully the Agreement on identity and rights of indigenous peoples[264] as a key to fighting discrimination and consolidating peace and equality in Guatemala, and highlights the need to implement fully the Agreement on Social and Economic Aspects and Agrarian Situation[265] as a means of addressing the root causes of the armed conflict;

15. *Calls upon* the Government to implement the recommendations of the Commission for Historical Clarification with a view to promoting national reconciliation, upholding the right to truth and providing redress for the victims of human rights abuses and violence committed during the thirty-six-year conflict, and calls upon Congress to establish, as recommended, the Commission for Peace and Harmony;

16. *Invites* the international community and, in particular, the agencies, programmes and funds of the United Nations, to continue to support the consolidation of the peace-building process, with the peace agreements as the framework for their technical and financial assistance programmes and projects, and stresses the continued importance of close cooperation among them in the context of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework for Guatemala;

17. *Urges* the international community to support financially, through existing mechanisms of international cooperation, the strengthening of national capacities to ensure the consolidation of the peace process in Guatemala;

18. *Also urges* the international community to support financially the strengthening of the capacities of the United Nations agencies and programmes as the Mission will transfer some of its activities and projects to these agencies to support the national efforts to comply with the commitments of the peace agreements;

19. *Stresses* that the Mission has a key role to play in promoting the consolidation of peace and the observance of human rights and in verifying compliance with the revised timetable for the implementation of pending commitments under the peace agreements;

20. *Decides* to authorize the renewal of the mandate of the Mission from 1 January to 31 December 2002;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit, as early as possible, an updated report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session, together with his recommendations regarding the continuation of the peace-building phase after 31 December 2002;

22. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to keep the General Assembly fully informed of the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/224

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/56/L.45/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Austria, Belgium, Belize, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Portugal, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

56/224. The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development

The General Assembly,

Considering the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, particularly resolution 637 (1989) of 27 July 1989, and its own resolutions, particularly resolution 43/24 of 15 November 1988, in which it requests the Secretary-General to continue his good offices and to afford the fullest possible support to the Central American Governments in their efforts to achieve the objectives of peace, reconciliation, democracy, development and justice established in the agreement on "Procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace in Central America" of 7 August 1987,[266]

Reaffirming its resolutions in which it recognizes and stresses the importance of international economic, financial and technical cooperation and assistance, both bilateral and multilateral, aimed at promoting economic and social development in the region with a view to furthering and supplementing the efforts of the Central American peoples and Governments to achieve peace and democratization, particularly resolution 52/169 G of 16 December 1997, concerning international assistance to and cooperation with the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America, and the relevant resolutions concerning emergency assistance to the Central American countries, as a consequence of the destruction caused by natural disasters,

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[264] A/49/882-S/1995/256, annex.

[265] A/50/956, annex.

[266] A/42/521-S/19085, annex.

Emphasizing the importance of the development of the Central American Integration System, which has as its main objective the promotion of the integration process, the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America as the integrated programme for national and regional development, which contains the commitments and priorities of the countries of the area for the promotion of sustainable development, the establishment of the subsystem and of the regional social policy, the model of democratic Central American security, and the implementation of other agreements adopted at the presidential summit meetings, which taken together constitute the global frame of reference for consolidating peace, freedom, democracy and development and the basis for the promotion of mutually advantageous relations between Central America and the international community,

Recognizing the considerable success achieved in the fulfilment of the commitments contained in the Guatemala peace agreements, implementation of which is being verified by the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala,

Noting with concern the deterioration in the Central American economies, mainly due to an unfavourable international economic climate and its negative effects on the efforts of the peoples and Governments of the region to achieve sustainable economic development,

Noting at the same time the delays in the fulfilment of some of the commitments contained in the Guatemala peace agreements, which have led the Commission to Follow up the Implementation of the peace agreements to reschedule its fulfilment for the period 2001–2004, and having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala and the recommendations contained therein[267] aimed at ensuring that the Mission is able to respond adequately to the demands of the peace process until December 2002,

Taking note with satisfaction of the successful implementation of the peace agreements and the continuous consolidation of the process of democratization in El Salvador, as a result of the efforts of its people and Government,

Recognizing with satisfaction the role played by the peacekeeping operations and observer and monitoring missions of the United Nations, which carried out successfully their mandate in Central America pursuant to the relevant resolutions of the Security Council and the General Assembly, respectively,

Recognizing with satisfaction also the organization and holding of general elections in 2001, in Nicaragua on 4 November and in Honduras on 25 November,

Emphasizing the importance of the end of a critical period in Central American history and the start of a new phase free from armed conflict, with freely elected Governments in each country and with political, economic, social and other changes which are creating a climate conducive to the promotion of economic growth and further progress towards the consolidation and further development of democratic, just and equitable societies,

Noting that the Third Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction[268] was held in Nicaragua in September 2001,

Reaffirming that the consolidation and establishment of firm and lasting peace and democracy in Central America is a dynamic and ongoing process that faces serious structural challenges,

Stressing the importance of progress in human development, especially the alleviation of extreme poverty, the promotion of economic and social justice, judicial reform, the promotion and safeguarding of human rights and fundamental freedoms, respect for minorities and the satisfaction of the basic needs of the most vulnerable groups among the peoples in the region, issues which have been a primary source of tension and conflict and which deserve to be discussed with the same urgency and dedication as was the case in the settlement of armed conflicts,

Considering with concern that it has not yet been possible to overcome the devastating effects of hurricanes Mitch and Keith on certain countries of the region, which are causing setbacks in the progress made by the peoples and Governments of Central America, a situation which is aggravated by the earthquakes in El Salvador and the drought afflicting the entire region in 2001, especially Honduras and Nicaragua,

Emphasizing the solidarity of the international community with the victims of Hurricane Mitch, as demonstrated by the Stockholm Declaration,[269] the subsequent meetings of the Regional Consultative Group for the transformation and modernization of Central America and, in particular, by the meeting of the Group, held in Madrid on 8 and 9 March 2001, at which the requirements of the Central American countries affected by natural disasters, including the earthquakes in El Salvador early in 2001, were considered,

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[267] A/56/391.

[268] See CD/1478.

[269] See www.iadb.org.

Bearing in mind the efforts made by the Central American Governments to reduce the risks and mitigate the consequences of natural disasters in the region, as demonstrated by the adoption, by the Presidents of the Isthmus, of the Declaration of Guatemala II of 19 October 1999,[270] the subsequent adoption of the Strategic Framework for the Reduction of Vulnerability and Disasters in Central America, as well as the adoption of the Central American Five-Year Plan for the Reduction of Vulnerability to and the Impact of Disasters, 2000 to 2004,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Central America;[271]

2. *Commends* the efforts of the peoples and the Governments of the Central American countries to re-establish peace and democracy throughout the region and promote sustainable development by implementing the commitments adopted at the summit meetings in the region, and supports the decision of the Presidents that Central America should become a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development;

3. *Reaffirms* the need to continue to improve the electoral processes that have been taking place in Central America, which are conducive to the consolidation of democracy in the region;

4. *Recognizes* the need to continue to follow closely the situation in Central America according to the objectives and principles established in the Stockholm Declaration[269] in order to support national and regional efforts to overcome the underlying causes that have led to armed conflicts, avoid setbacks and consolidate peace and democratization in the area and promote the objectives of the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America;

5. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the results of the meeting of the Regional Consultative Group for the transformation and modernization of Central America which will continue to help to consolidate the transformation and modernization of Central America through the implementation of measures to reform and harmonize the legislation and institutions of the region, and through specific development projects;

6. *Reaffirms* the importance of the Puebla-Panama Plan as a means of promoting the economic and social development of the Mesoamerican region, and in that connection recognizes the progress made in implementing the Plan and invites the friendly countries of the Mesoamerican region, international agencies and international businessmen and investors to support the Mesoamerican countries in the implementation of the projects prioritized in the Plan;

7. *Recognizes* the efforts made by the Government of El Salvador to deal effectively with the requirements deriving from the earthquakes in that country early in 2001;

8. *Welcomes* the valuable and speedy response of the international community to the serious natural disasters which have affected the region, in particular the earthquakes in El Salvador early in 2001, which demonstrates the permanent solidarity that unites the peoples of the world, and also urges the cooperating international community to continue to make the necessary contributions to supplement national efforts to reconstruct the country;

9. *Also welcomes* the Declaration of Guatemala II[270] which provides for the necessary measures to prevent vulnerability to and mitigate the effects of natural disasters;

10. *Further welcomes* the progress achieved in implementing the Guatemala peace agreements, calls upon all parties to take further measures to implement the commitments in the peace agreements, in particular with regard to the Fiscal Pact for a Future with Peace and Development, the Agreement on identity and rights of indigenous peoples,[272] and the recommendations of the Commission for Historical Clarification,[273] and urges all sectors of society to combine efforts and work with courage and determination to consolidate peace;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the bodies and programmes of the United Nations system and the international community to continue to support and verify in Guatemala the implementation of all the peace agreements signed under United Nations auspices, compliance with which is an essential condition for a firm and lasting peace in that country, and to consider the implementation of the peace agreements as the framework for their technical and financial assistance programmes and projects, stressing the importance of constant and close cooperation among them in the context of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework for Guatemala;

12. *Expresses its appreciation and satisfaction* to the people and the Government of El Salvador for their successful efforts to fulfil the commitments set forth in the peace agreements, which have made a substantial contribution to the strengthening of the process of democratization in that country;

13. *Recognizes* the importance of the Central American Integration System as the body set up to coordinate and harmonize efforts to achieve integration, and calls upon the international community, the United Nations system and other international organizations, both governmental and non-

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[270] A/54/630, annex.

[271] A/56/416.

[272] A/49/882-S/1995/256, annex.

[273] See A/53/928, annex.

governmental, to extend effective cooperation with a view to improving the competence and efficiency of the Integration System in the fulfilment of its mandate;

14. *Underlines* the efforts carried out in the Central American region towards integration, such as the Trinational Declaration between Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua, as well as the Customs Union between those countries, as means for promoting integration while respecting different stages of development, through a pragmatic mechanism open to the participation of the other countries of the region; underlines also the most recent progress in the form of the frontier post in Peñas Blancas, Nicaragua, common to four countries (El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua), which became operational in October 2001; this customs unification, involving twelve frontier posts, entailed bilateral, trinational and quadrinational unifications;

15. *Encourages* the Central American Governments to continue to carry out their historic responsibilities by implementing fully the commitments they have assumed under national, regional or international agreements, especially the agreements for the promotion and safeguarding of human rights, and the commitments to implement the social programme to overcome poverty and unemployment, establish a more just and equitable society, improve public safety, strengthen the judiciary, consolidate a modern and transparent public administration and eliminate corruption, impunity, acts of terrorism and drug and arms trafficking, all of which are necessary and urgent measures for consolidating a firm and lasting peace in the region;

16. *Reiterates its deep appreciation* to the Secretary-General, his special representatives, the groups of countries for the peace processes in El Salvador (Colombia, Mexico, Spain, United States of America and Venezuela), and Guatemala (Colombia, Mexico, Norway, Spain, United States of America and Venezuela), to the Support Group for Nicaragua (Canada, Mexico, Netherlands, Spain and Sweden), to the European Union and to other countries that have contributed significantly and to the international community in general for its support and solidarity in the building of peace, democracy and development in Central America;

17. *Reaffirms* the importance of international cooperation, in particular cooperation with the bodies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and the donor community in the new stage of consolidating firm and lasting peace and democracy in Central America, and urges them to continue to support Central American efforts to achieve those goals;

18. *Notes with satisfaction* the firm determination of the Central American Governments to settle their disputes through peaceful means, thereby avoiding any setback in the efforts to consolidate firm and lasting peace in the region;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to lend his full support to the initiatives and activities of the Central American Governments, particularly their efforts to consolidate peace and democracy through the promotion of integration and the implementation of the comprehensive sustainable development programme, emphasizing, inter alia, the potential repercussions of natural disasters, in particular the persisting effects of hurricane Mitch, for the peace processes and the vulnerable economies of the region, and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution;

20. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development".

II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

Contents

Resolution No.	Title	Page
56/14.	Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures	113
56/15.	Verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification	114
56/16.	Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace	115
56/17.	African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba)	116
56/18.	Maintenance of international security – good-neighbourliness, stability and development in South-Eastern Europe	116
56/19.	Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security	118
56/20.	Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament	119
56/21.	Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East	120
56/22.	Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons	122
56/23.	Prevention of an arms race in outer space	124
56/24.	General and complete disarmament	125
	A. Preservation of and compliance with the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems	125
	B. Missiles	126
	C. Reducing nuclear danger	127
	D. Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament	128
	E. Relationship between disarmament and development	129
	F. Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control	130
	G. Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas	131
	H. Regional disarmament	132
	I. Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels	133
	J. The Conference on Disarmament decision (CD/1547) of 11 August 1998 to establish, under item 1 of its agenda entitled "Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament", an ad hoc committee to negotiate, on the basis of the report of the Special Coordinator (CD/1299) and the mandate contained therein, a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices	134
	K. Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction	134
	L. Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes	135
	M. Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction	136
	N. A path to the total elimination of nuclear weapons	138
	O. 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and its Preparatory Committee	140

Resolution No. *Title* *Page*

P. Consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures 141

Q. Transparency in armaments 142

R. Nuclear disarmament 143

S. Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court Of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons* 146

T. Multilateral cooperation in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation and global efforts against terrorism 147

U. Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and collecting them 148

V. The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects 149

56/25. Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly 150

A. Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa 150

B. Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons 152

C. United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament 153

D. United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa 154

E. United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean 155

F. United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific 156

56/26. Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session 157

A. Report of the Disarmament Commission 157

B. Report of the Conference on Disarmament 158

56/27. The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East 158

56/28. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects 160

56/29. Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region 162

56/30. Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) 163

RESOLUTION 56/14

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/526, para. 7)[1]

56/14. Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/72 of 4 December 1998 and 54/43 of 1 December 1999 on objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures,

Also recalling its resolution 35/142 B of 12 December 1980, which introduced the United Nations system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures, and its resolutions 48/62 of 16 December 1993, 49/66 of 15 December 1994, 51/38 of 10 December 1996 and 52/32 of 9 December 1997, calling upon all Member States to participate in it, and its resolution 47/54 B of 9 December 1992, endorsing the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters and inviting Member States to provide the Secretary-General with relevant information regarding their implementation,

Noting that since then national reports on military expenditures and on the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters have been submitted by a number of Member States belonging to different geographic regions,

Convinced that the improvement of international relations forms a sound basis for promoting further openness and transparency in all military matters,

Also convinced that transparency in military matters is an essential element for building a climate of trust and confidence between States worldwide and that a better flow of objective information on military matters can help relieve international tension and is therefore an important contribution to conflict prevention,

Noting the role of the standardized reporting system, as instituted through its resolution 35/142 B, as an important instrument to enhance transparency in military matters,

Conscious that the value of the standardized reporting system would be enhanced by a broader participation of Member States,

Welcoming, therefore, the report of the Secretary-General[2] on ways and means to implement the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters, including, in particular, how to strengthen and broaden participation in the standardized reporting system,

Recalling that the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters recommended certain areas for further consideration, such as the improvement of the standardized reporting system,

Noting the efforts of several regional organizations to promote transparency of military expenditures, including standardized annual exchanges of relevant information among their member States,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to report annually, by 30 April, to the Secretary-General their military expenditures for the latest fiscal year for which data are available, using, preferably and to the extent possible, the reporting instrument as recommended in its resolution 35/142 B or, as appropriate, any other format developed in conjunction with similar reporting on military expenditures to other international or regional organizations, and, in the same context, encourages Member States that have no information to provide to submit nil returns;

2. *Recommends* the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters to all Member States for implementation, fully taking into account specific political, military and other conditions prevailing in a region, on the basis of initiatives and with the agreement of the States of the region concerned;

3. *Encourages* relevant international bodies and regional organizations to promote transparency of military expenditures and to enhance complementarity among reporting systems, taking into account the particular characteristics of each region, and to consider the possibility of an exchange of information with the United Nations;

4. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures;[3]

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within available resources:

(*a*) To continue the practice of sending an annual note verbale to Member States requesting the submission of data to the standardized reporting system, together with the reporting format and related instructions, and to publish in a timely fashion in appropriate United Nations media the due date for transmitting data on military expenditures;

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay.

[2] A/54/298.

[3] A/56/267.

(*b*) To circulate annually the reports on military expenditures as received from Member States;

(*c*) To continue consultations with relevant international bodies with a view to ascertaining requirements for adjusting the present instrument, with a view to encouraging wider participation, and to make recommendations, based on the outcome of those consultations and taking into account the views of Member States, on necessary changes to the content and structure of the standardized reporting system;

(*d*) To encourage relevant international bodies and organizations to promote transparency of military expenditures and to consult with those bodies and organizations with emphasis on examining possibilities for enhancing complementarity among international and regional reporting systems and for exchanging related information between those bodies and the United Nations;

(*e*) To encourage the United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament in Africa, in Asia and the Pacific, and in Latin America and the Caribbean to assist Member States in their regions in enhancing their knowledge of the standardized reporting system;

(*f*) To promote international and regional/subregional symposia and training seminars to explain the purpose of the standardized reporting system and to give relevant technical instructions;

(*g*) To report on experiences gained during such symposia and training seminars;

6. *Encourages* Member States:

(*a*) To inform the Secretary-General about possible problems with the standardized reporting system and their reasons for not submitting the requested data;

(*b*) To provide the Secretary-General, in time for deliberation by the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, with their views and suggestions on ways and means to strengthen and broaden participation in the standardized reporting system, including necessary changes to its content and structure;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures".

RESOLUTION 56/15

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/527, para. 7)[4]

56/15. Verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification

The General Assembly,

Noting the critical importance of, and the vital contribution that has been made by, effective verification measures in arms limitation and disarmament agreements and other similar obligations,

Reaffirming its support for the sixteen principles of verification drawn up by the Disarmament Commission,[5]

Recalling its resolutions 40/152 O of 16 December 1985, 41/86 Q of 4 December 1986, 42/42 F of 30 November 1987, 43/81 B of 7 December 1988, 45/65 of 4 December 1990, 47/45 of 9 December 1992, 48/68 of 16 December 1993, 50/61 of 12 December 1995, 52/31 of 9 December 1997 and 54/46 of 1 December 1999,

Recalling also the reports of the Secretary-General of 11 July 1986, 28 August 1990, 16 September 1992, 26 July 1993, 22 September 1995, 6 August 1997, 9 July 1999 and 10 September 2001, and the addenda thereto,[6]

1. *Reaffirms* the critical importance of, and the vital contribution that has been made by, effective verification measures in arms limitation and disarmament agreements and other similar obligations;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on further views received from Member States pursuant to resolutions 50/61, 52/31 and 54/46;

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification".

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[4] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[5] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifteenth Special Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/S-15/3), para. 60 (para. 6, sect. I, of the quoted text).

[6] A/41/422 and Add.1 and 2, A/45/372 and Corr.1, A/47/405 and Add.1, A/48/227 and Add.1 and 2, A/50/377 and Corr.1, A/52/269, A/54/166 and A/56/347.

RESOLUTION 56/16

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/528, para. 7),[7] by a recorded vote of 110 to 3, with 41 abstentions, as follows:

In fav[illegible]nistan, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

Against: France, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Yugoslavia

56/16. Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, contained in its resolution 2832 (XXVI) of 16 December 1971, and recalling also its resolution 54/47 of 1 December 1999 and other relevant resolutions,

Recalling also the report of the Meeting of the Littoral and Hinterland States of the Indian Ocean held in July 1979,[8]

Recalling further paragraph 148 of the Final Document of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998,[9] in which it was noted, inter alia, that the Chairperson of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean would continue his informal consultations on the future work of the Committee,

Emphasizing the need to foster consensual approaches that are conducive to the pursuit of such endeavours,

Noting the initiatives taken by countries of the region to promote cooperation, in particular economic cooperation, in the Indian Ocean area and the possible contribution of such initiatives to overall objectives of a zone of peace,

Convinced that the participation of all permanent members of the Security Council and the major maritime users of the Indian Ocean in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee is important and would assist the progress of a mutually beneficial dialogue to develop conditions of peace, security and stability in the Indian Ocean region,

Considering that greater efforts and more time are required to develop a focused discussion on practical measures to ensure conditions of peace, security and stability in the Indian Ocean region,

Having considered the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean,[10]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean;[10]

2. *Reiterates its conviction* that the participation of all permanent members of the Security Council and the major maritime users of the Indian Ocean in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee is important and would greatly facilitate the development of a mutually beneficial dialogue to advance peace, security and stability in the Indian Ocean region;

3. *Requests* the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee to continue his informal consultations with the members of the Committee and to report through the Committee to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to render, within existing resources, all necessary assistance to the Ad Hoc Committee, including the provision of summary records;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace".

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[7] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by South Africa (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

[8] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 45* and corrigendum (A/34/45 and Corr.1).

[9] See A/53/667-S/1998/1071, annex I.

[10] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 29* (A/56/29).

RESOLUTION 56/17

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/529, para. 8)[11]

56/17. African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 54/48 of 1 December 1999 and all its other relevant resolutions, as well as those of the Organization of African Unity,

Recalling also the successful conclusion of the signing ceremony of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba)[12] that was held at Cairo on 11 April 1996,

Recalling further the Cairo Declaration adopted on that occasion,[13] which emphasized that nuclear-weapon-free zones, especially in regions of tension, such as the Middle East, enhance global and regional peace and security,

Noting the statement made by the President of the Security Council on behalf of the members of the Council on 12 April 1996,[14] in which it was stated that the signature of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty constituted an important contribution by the African countries to the maintenance of international peace and security,

Considering that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, especially in the Middle East, would enhance the security of Africa and the viability of the African nuclear-weapon-free zone,

1. *Calls upon* African States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba)[12] as soon as possible so that it may enter into force without delay;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the nuclear-weapon States that have signed the Protocols that concern them, and calls upon those that have not yet ratified the Protocols concerning them to do so as soon as possible;

3. *Calls upon* the States contemplated in Protocol III to the Treaty that have not yet done so to take all necessary measures to ensure the speedy application of the Treaty to territories for which they are, de jure or de facto, internationally responsible and which lie within the limits of the geographical zone established in the Treaty;

4. *Calls upon* the African States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[15] that have not yet done so to conclude comprehensive safeguards agreements with the International Atomic Energy Agency pursuant to the Treaty, thereby satisfying the requirements of article 9 (*b*) of and annex II to the Treaty of Pelindaba when it enters into force, and to conclude additional protocols to their safeguards agreements on the basis of the Model Protocol approved by the Board of Governors of the Agency on 15 May 1997;[16]

5. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity and the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency for the diligence with which they have rendered effective assistance to the signatories to the Treaty;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty".

RESOLUTION 56/18

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/530, para. 7)[17]

56/18. Maintenance of international security – good-neighbourliness, stability and development in South-Eastern Europe

The General Assembly,

Recalling the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, signed at Helsinki on 1 August 1975,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[18]

Recalling further its resolutions 48/84 B of 16 December 1993, 50/80 B of 12 December 1995, 51/55 of 10 December 1996, 52/48 of 9 December 1997, 53/71 of 4 December 1998, 54/62 of 1 December 1999 and 55/27 of 20 November 2000,

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[11] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by the Sudan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States).

[12] See A/50/426, annex.

[13] A/51/113-S/1996/276, annex.

[14] S/PRST/1996/17; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1996*.

[15] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[16] International Atomic Energy Agency, INFCIRC/540 (Corrected).

[17] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic Denmark, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain Swedenthe former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Yugoslavia.

[18] See resolution 55/2.

Convinced of the necessity of enhancing the overall conflict prevention and resolution capability of the United Nations system and other relevant regional organizations to prevent the outbreak of conflicts,

Emphasizing the crucial importance of the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) of 10 June 1999 on Kosovo, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and stressing, inter alia, the role and responsibility of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo, supported by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the European Union, and of the Kosovo Force in that regard, as well as the importance of the implementation of Security Council resolutions 1345 (2001) of 21 March 2001 and 1371 (2001) of 26 September 2001,

Commending the significant progress made by the people and the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia towards establishing democracy and the important steps taken to cooperate with the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991,

Recalling the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe, and stressing the importance of the implementation of its objectives, with emphasis on regional cooperation,

Noting the importance of the activities of international organizations, such as the European Union, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Council of Europe, as well as the contribution of the Central European Initiative and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, for the implementation of the Stability Pact,

Welcoming the normalization of relations among all States of the Balkan region, and noting, in this respect, the Agreement for the delineation of the borderline between the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, signed at Skopje on 23 February 2001,[19] as well as the re-establishment of diplomatic relations between Albania and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia,

Welcoming also the agreement of 29 June 2001 on succession issues among the States successors to the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia,

Welcoming further the signing of stabilization and association agreements and/or European agreements between the countries of the region and the European Union and its member States,

Reiterating the importance of the South-East European Cooperation Process and its contribution to security, stability and good-neighbourly relations in South-Eastern Europe, and recalling in particular the Summit Declaration and the Action Plan for Regional Economic Cooperation, adopted by the heads of State and Government of the participating and observer countries of the South-East European Cooperation Process at Skopje on 23 February 2001,[20]

Emphasizing the crucial importance of strengthening regional efforts in South-Eastern Europe on arms control, demining, disarmament and confidence-building measures, and concerned that, in spite of the ongoing efforts, the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects persists,

Mindful of the importance of national and international activities of all relevant organizations aimed at the creation of peace, security, stability, democracy, cooperation and economic development and the observance of human rights and good-neighbourliness in South-Eastern Europe,

Taking note of the Declaration of Solidarity adopted by the heads of State participating in the Summit Meeting of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization candidate countries held at Sofia on 5 October 2001,[21]

Reaffirming its determination that all nations should live together in peace with one another as good neighbours,

1. *Reaffirms* the need for full observance of the Charter of the United Nations;

2. *Calls upon* all States, the relevant international organizations and the competent organs of the United Nations to respect the principles of territorial integrity and sovereignty of all States and the inviolability of international borders, to continue to take measures in accordance with the Charter and the commitments of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and through further development of regional arrangements, as appropriate, to eliminate threats to international peace and security and to help to prevent conflicts in South-Eastern Europe, which can lead to the violent disintegration of States;

3. *Reaffirms* the urgency of consolidating South-Eastern Europe as a region of peace, security, stability, democracy, cooperation and economic development and for the promotion of good-neighbourliness and the observance of human rights, thus contributing to the maintenance of international peace and security and enhancing the prospects for sustained development and prosperity for all peoples in the region as an integral part of Europe, and recognizes the role of the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the European Union in promoting regional disarmament;

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[19] A/56/60-S/2001/234, annex.

[20] A/55/809-S/2001/172, annex.

[21] A/56/466, annex.

4. *Calls upon* all participants in the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe, as well as all concerned international organizations, to continue to support the efforts of the States of South-Eastern Europe towards regional stability and cooperation so as to enable them to pursue sustainable development and integration into European structures;

5. *Calls upon* all States and relevant international organizations to contribute to the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) on Kosovo, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, as well as Council resolutions 1345 (2001) and 1371 (2001);

6. *Rejects* the use of violence in pursuit of political aims, and stresses that only peaceful political solutions can assure a stable and democratic future for South-Eastern Europe;

7. *Welcomes* the signing of the Framework Agreement at Ohrid, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, on 13 August 2001, and supports its full and timely implementation by the parties to the Agreement;

8. *Stresses* the importance of good-neighbourliness and the development of friendly relations among States, and calls upon all States to resolve their disputes with other States by peaceful means, in accordance with the Charter;

9. *Urges* the strengthening of relations among the States of South-Eastern Europe on the basis of respect for international law and agreements, in accordance with the principles of good-neighbourliness and mutual respect;

10. *Recognizes* the efforts of the international community, and welcomes in particular the assistance already provided by the European Union, other contributors and the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe in promoting the long-term process of democratic and economic development of the region;

11. *Stresses* that the rapprochement of the South-Eastern European States with the European Union will favourably influence the security, political and economic situation in the region, as well as good-neighbourly relations among the States;

12. *Stresses also* the importance of regional efforts aimed at preventing conflicts that endanger the maintenance of international peace and security and, in this regard, notes with satisfaction the role of the Multinational Peace Force for South-Eastern Europe;

13. *Emphasizes* the importance of continuous regional efforts and intensified dialogue in South-Eastern Europe aimed at arms control, disarmament and confidence-building measures as well as strengthening cooperation and undertaking appropriate measures at the national, subregional and regional levels to prevent and suppress acts of terrorism;

14. *Welcomes* the adoption, on 18 July 2001, of the Concluding Document of the negotiations under article V of annex 1.B to the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina;[22]

15. *Recognizes* the seriousness of the problem of anti-personnel mines in some parts of South-Eastern Europe, welcomes, in this context, the efforts of the international community in support of mine action, and encourages States to join and support these efforts;

16. *Urges* all States to take effective measures against the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects and to help programmes and projects aimed at the collection and safe destruction of surplus stocks of small arms and light weapons, and stresses the importance of closer cooperation among States, inter alia, in crime prevention, combating terrorism, illicit trade in people, organized crime, drug trafficking and money-laundering;

17. *Calls upon* all States and the relevant international organizations to communicate to the Secretary-General their views on the subject of the present resolution;

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Maintenance of international security – good-neighbourliness, stability and development in South-Eastern Europe".

RESOLUTION 56/19

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/533, para. 9)[23]

56/19. Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/70 of 4 December 1998, 54/49 of 1 December 1999 and 55/28 of 20 November 2000,

Recalling also its resolutions on the role of science and technology in the context of international security, in which, inter alia, it recognized that scientific and technological developments could have both civilian and military applications and that progress in science and technology for civilian applications needed to be maintained and encouraged,

Noting that considerable progress has been achieved in developing and applying the latest information technologies and means of telecommunication,

Affirming that it sees in this process the broadest positive opportunities for the further development of civilization, the expansion of opportunities for cooperation for the common good of all States, the enhancement of the creative potential of mankind and additional improvements in the circulation of information in the global community,

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[22] See A/50/790-S/1995/999.

[23] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by the Russian Federation.

Recalling, in this connection, the approaches and principles outlined at the Information Society and Development Conference, held at Midrand, South Africa, from 13 to 15 May 1996,

Bearing in mind the results of the Ministerial Conference on Terrorism, held in Paris on 30 July 1996, and the recommendations that it made,[24]

Noting that the dissemination and use of information technologies and means affect the interests of the entire international community and that optimum effectiveness is enhanced by broad international cooperation,

Expressing concern that these technologies and means can potentially be used for purposes that are inconsistent with the objectives of maintaining international stability and security and may adversely affect the security of States in both civil and military fields,

Considering that it is necessary to prevent the use of information resources or technologies for criminal or terrorist purposes,

Noting the contribution of those Member States that have submitted their assessments on issues of information security to the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraphs 1 to 3 of resolutions 53/70, 54/49 and 55/28,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General containing those assessments,[25]

Welcoming the initiative taken by the Secretariat and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research in convening an international meeting of experts at Geneva in August 1999 on developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security, as well as its results,

Considering that the assessments of the Member States contained in the reports of the Secretary-General and the international meeting of experts have contributed to a better understanding of the substance of issues of international information security and related notions,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to promote further at multilateral levels the consideration of existing and potential threats in the field of information security, as well as possible measures to limit the threats emerging in this field, consistent with the need to preserve the free flow of information;

2. *Considers* that the purpose of such measures could be served through the examination of relevant international concepts aimed at strengthening the security of global information and telecommunications systems;

3. *Invites* all Member States to continue to inform the Secretary-General of their views and assessments on the following questions:

(*a*) General appreciation of the issues of information security;

(*b*) Definition of basic notions related to information security, including unauthorized interference with or misuse of information and telecommunications systems and information resources;

(*c*) The content of the concepts mentioned in paragraph 2 of the present resolution;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider existing and potential threats in the sphere of information security and possible cooperative measures to address them, and to conduct a study on the concepts referred to in paragraph 2 of the present resolution, with the assistance of a group of governmental experts, to be established in 2004, appointed by him on the basis of equitable geographical distribution and with the help of Member States in a position to render such assistance, and to submit a report on the outcome of the study to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security".

RESOLUTION 56/20

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/531, para. 7),[26] by a recorded vote of 92 to 46, with 17 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua

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[24] See A/51/261, annex.

[25] A/54/213, A/55/140 and Corr.1 and Add.1, and A/56/164 and Add.1.

[26] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Fiji, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kenya, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritius, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia

Abstaining: Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Brazil, Georgia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Paraguay, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Samoa, South Africa, Tonga, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uruguay

56/20. Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that scientific and technological developments can have both civilian and military applications and that progress in science and technology for civilian applications needs to be maintained and encouraged,

Concerned that military applications of scientific and technological developments can contribute significantly to the improvement and upgrading of advanced weapons systems and, in particular, weapons of mass destruction,

Aware of the need to follow closely the scientific and technological developments that may have a negative impact on international security and disarmament, and to channel scientific and technological developments for beneficial purposes,

Cognizant that the international transfers of dual-use as well as high-technology products, services and know-how for peaceful purposes are important for the economic and social development of States,

Also cognizant of the need to regulate such transfers of dual-use goods and technologies and high technology with military applications through multilaterally negotiated, universally applicable, non-discriminatory guidelines,

Expressing concern about the growing proliferation of ad hoc and exclusive export control regimes and arrangements for dual-use goods and technologies, which tend to impede the economic and social development of developing countries,

Recalling that in the Final Document of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998,[27] it was noted with concern that undue restrictions on exports to developing countries of material, equipment and technology for peaceful purposes persist,

Emphasizing that internationally negotiated guidelines for the transfer of high technology with military applications should take into account the legitimate defence requirements of all States and the requirements for the maintenance of international peace and security, while ensuring that access to high-technology products and services and know-how for peaceful purposes is not denied,

1. *Affirms* that scientific and technological progress should be used for the benefit of all mankind to promote the sustainable economic and social development of all States and to safeguard international security and that international cooperation in the use of science and technology through the transfer and exchange of technological know-how for peaceful purposes should be promoted;

2. *Invites* Member States to undertake additional efforts to apply science and technology for disarmament-related purposes and to make disarmament-related technologies available to interested States;

3. *Urges* Member States to undertake multilateral negotiations with the participation of all interested States in order to establish universally acceptable, non-discriminatory guidelines for international transfers of dual-use goods and technologies and high technology with military applications;

4. *Encourages* United Nations bodies to contribute, within existing mandates, to promoting the application of science and technology for peaceful purposes;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament".

RESOLUTION 56/21

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/532, para. 7)[28]

56/21. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3263 (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3474 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, 31/71 of 10 December 1976, 32/82 of 12 December 1977, 33/64 of 14 December 1978, 34/77 of 11 December 1979, 35/147 of 12 December 1980, 36/87 A and B of 9 December 1981, 37/75 of 9 December 1982, 38/64 of 15 December 1983, 39/54 of 12 December 1984, 40/82 of 12 December 1985, 41/48 of 3 December 1986, 42/28 of 30 November 1987, 43/65 of

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[27] A/53/667-S/1998/1071, annex I.

[28] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Egypt.

7 December 1988, 44/108 of 15 December 1989, 45/52 of 4 December 1990, 46/30 of 6 December 1991, 47/48 of 9 December 1992, 48/71 of 16 December 1993, 49/71 of 15 December 1994, 50/66 of 12 December 1995, 51/41 of 10 December 1996, 52/34 of 9 December 1997, 53/74 of 4 December 1998, 54/51 of 1 December 1999 and 55/30 of 20 November 2000 on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East,

Recalling also the recommendations for the establishment of such a zone in the Middle East consistent with paragraphs 60 to 63, and in particular paragraph 63 (*d*), of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[29]

Emphasizing the basic provisions of the above-mentioned resolutions, which call upon all parties directly concerned to consider taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East and, pending and during the establishment of such a zone, to declare solemnly that they will refrain, on a reciprocal basis, from producing, acquiring or in any other way possessing nuclear weapons and nuclear explosive devices and from permitting the stationing of nuclear weapons on their territory by any third party, to agree to place their nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards and to declare their support for the establishment of the zone and to deposit such declarations with the Security Council for consideration, as appropriate,

Reaffirming the inalienable right of all States to acquire and develop nuclear energy for peaceful purposes,

Emphasizing the need for appropriate measures on the question of the prohibition of military attacks on nuclear facilities,

Bearing in mind the consensus reached by the General Assembly since its thirty-fifth session that the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East would greatly enhance international peace and security,

Desirous of building on that consensus so that substantial progress can be made towards establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East,

Welcoming all initiatives leading to general and complete disarmament, including in the region of the Middle East, and in particular on the establishment therein of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons,

Noting the peace negotiations in the Middle East, which should be of a comprehensive nature and represent an appropriate framework for the peaceful settlement of contentious issues in the region,

Recognizing the importance of credible regional security, including the establishment of a mutually verifiable nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Emphasizing the essential role of the United Nations in the establishment of a mutually verifiable nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 55/30,[30]

1. *Urges* all parties directly concerned to consider seriously taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and, as a means of promoting this objective, invites the countries concerned to adhere to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;[31]

2. *Calls upon* all countries of the region that have not done so, pending the establishment of the zone, to agree to place all their nuclear activities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards;

3. *Takes note* of resolution GC(45)/RES/18, adopted on 21 September 2001 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its forty-fifth regular session, concerning the application of Agency safeguards in the Middle East;[32]

4. *Notes* the importance of the ongoing bilateral Middle East peace negotiations and the activities of the multilateral Working Group on Arms Control and Regional Security in promoting mutual confidence and security in the Middle East, including the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone;

5. *Invites* all countries of the region, pending the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East, to declare their support for establishing such a zone, consistent with paragraph 63 (*d*) of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[29] and to deposit those declarations with the Security Council;

6. *Also invites* those countries, pending the establishment of the zone, not to develop, produce, test or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons or permit the stationing on their territories, or territories under their control, of nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices;

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[29] Resolution S-10/2.

[30] A/56/187.

[31] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[32] See International Atomic Energy Agency, ***Resolutions and Other** Decisions of the General Conference, Forty-fifth Regular Session, 17–21 September 2001* (GC(45)/RES/DEC(2001)).

7. *Invites* the nuclear-weapon States and all other States to render their assistance in the establishment of the zone and at the same time to refrain from any action that runs counter to both the letter and the spirit of the present resolution;

8. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[30]

9. *Invites* all parties to consider the appropriate means that may contribute towards the goal of general and complete disarmament and the establishment of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction in the region of the Middle East;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to pursue consultations with the States of the region and other concerned States, in accordance with paragraph 7 of resolution 46/30 and taking into account the evolving situation in the region, and to seek from those States their views on the measures outlined in chapters III and IV of the study annexed to his report of 10 October 1990[33] or other relevant measures, in order to move towards the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East".

RESOLUTION 56/22

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/534, para. 7),[34] by a recorded vote of 105 to none, with 54 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

Against: None

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia

56/22. Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the need to allay the legitimate concern of the States of the world with regard to ensuring lasting security for their peoples,

Convinced that nuclear weapons pose the greatest threat to mankind and to the survival of civilization,

Welcoming the progress achieved in recent years in both nuclear and conventional disarmament,

Noting that, despite recent progress in the field of nuclear disarmament, further efforts are necessary towards the achievement of general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

Convinced that nuclear disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons are essential to remove the danger of nuclear war,

Determined to abide strictly by the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations on the non-use of force or threat of force,

Recognizing that the independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of non-nuclear-weapon States need to be safeguarded against the use or threat of use of force, including the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Considering that, until nuclear disarmament is achieved on a universal basis, it is imperative for the international community to develop effective measures and arrangements to ensure the security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons from any quarter,

Recognizing that effective measures and arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons can contribute positively to the prevention of the spread of nuclear weapons,

Bearing in mind paragraph 59 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[35] the first special session devoted to disarmament, in which it urged the nuclear-weapon States to pursue efforts to conclude, as appropriate, effective arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and desirous of promoting the implementation of the relevant provisions of the Final Document,

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[33] A/45/435.

[34] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Colombia, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Fiji, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Viet Nam and Zambia.

[35] Resolution S-10/2.

Recalling the relevant parts of the special report of the Committee on Disarmament[36] submitted to the General Assembly at its twelfth special session,[37] the second special session devoted to disarmament, and of the special report of the Conference on Disarmament submitted to the Assembly at its fifteenth special session,[38] the third special session devoted to disarmament, as well as the report of the Conference on its 1992 session,[39]

Recalling also paragraph 12 of the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 35/46 of 3 December 1980, which states, inter alia, that all efforts should be exerted by the Committee on Disarmament urgently to negotiate with a view to reaching agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Noting the in-depth negotiations undertaken in the Conference on Disarmament and its Ad Hoc Committee on Effective International Arrangements to Assure Non-Nuclear-Weapon States against the Use or Threat of Use of Nuclear Weapons,[40] with a view to reaching agreement on this question,

Taking note of the proposals submitted under the item in the Conference on Disarmament, including the drafts of an international convention,

Taking note also of the relevant decision of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998,[41] as well as the relevant recommendations of the Organization of the Islamic Conference,

Taking note further of the unilateral declarations made by all the nuclear-weapon States on their policies of non-use or non-threat of use of nuclear weapons against the non-nuclear-weapon States,

Noting the support expressed in the Conference on Disarmament and in the General Assembly for the elaboration of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, as well as the difficulties pointed out in evolving a common approach acceptable to all,

Taking note of Security Council resolution 984 (1995) of 11 April 1995 and the views expressed on it,

Recalling its relevant resolutions adopted in previous years, in particular resolutions 45/54 of 4 December 1990, 46/32 of 6 December 1991, 47/50 of 9 December 1992, 48/73 of 16 December 1993, 49/73 of 15 December 1994, 50/68 of 12 December 1995, 51/43 of 10 December 1996, 52/36 of 9 December 1997, 53/75 of 4 December 1998, 54/52 of 1 December 1999 and 55/31 of 20 November 2000,

1. *Reaffirms* the urgent need to reach an early agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

2. *Notes with satisfaction* that in the Conference on Disarmament there is no objection, in principle, to the idea of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, although the difficulties with regard to evolving a common approach acceptable to all have also been pointed out;

3. *Appeals* to all States, especially the nuclear-weapon States, to work actively towards an early agreement on a common approach and, in particular, on a common formula that could be included in an international instrument of a legally binding character;

4. *Recommends* that further intensive efforts be devoted to the search for such a common approach or common formula and that the various alternative approaches, including, in particular, those considered in the Conference on Disarmament, be further explored in order to overcome the difficulties;

5. *Recommends also* that the Conference on Disarmament actively continue intensive negotiations with a view to reaching early agreement and concluding effective international arrangements to assure the non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, taking into account the widespread support for the conclusion of an international convention and giving consideration to any other proposals designed to secure the same objective;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons".

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[36] The Committee on Disarmament was redesignated the Conference on Disarmament as from 7 February 1984.

[37] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Supplement No. 2* (A/S-12/2), sect. III. C.

[38] Ibid., *Fifteenth Special Session, Supplement No. 2* (A/S-15/2), sect. III.F.

[39] Ibid., *Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/47/27), sect. III.F.

[40] Ibid., *Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/48/27), para. 39.

[41] See A/53/667-S/1998/1071, annex I.

RESOLUTION 56/23

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/535, para. 7),[42] by a recorded vote of 156 to none, with 4 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: None

Abstaining: Georgia, Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), United States of America

56/23. Prevention of an arms race in outer space

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the common interest of all mankind in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Reaffirming the will of all States that the exploration and use of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, shall be for peaceful purposes and shall be carried out for the benefit and in the interest of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development,

Reaffirming also the provisions of articles III and IV of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,[43]

Recalling the obligation of all States to observe the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations regarding the use or threat of use of force in their international relations, including in their space activities,

Reaffirming paragraph 80 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[44] in which it is stated that in order to prevent an arms race in outer space further measures should be taken and appropriate international negotiations held in accordance with the spirit of the Treaty,

Recalling its previous resolutions on this issue, and taking note of the proposals submitted to the General Assembly at its tenth special session and at its regular sessions, and of the recommendations made to the competent organs of the United Nations and to the Conference on Disarmament,

Recognizing that prevention of an arms race in outer space would avert a grave danger for international peace and security,

Emphasizing the paramount importance of strict compliance with existing arms limitation and disarmament agreements relevant to outer space, including bilateral agreements, and with the existing legal regime concerning the use of outer space,

Considering that wide participation in the legal regime applicable to outer space could contribute to enhancing its effectiveness,

Noting that the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, taking into account its previous efforts since its establishment in 1985 and seeking to enhance its functioning in qualitative terms, continued the examination and identification of various issues, existing agreements and existing proposals, as well as future initiatives relevant to the prevention of an arms race in outer space,[45] and that this contributed to a better understanding of a number of problems and to a clearer perception of the various positions,

Noting also that there were no objections in principle in the Conference on Disarmament to the re-establishment of the Ad Hoc Committee, subject to re-examination of the mandate contained in the decision of the Conference on Disarmament of 13 February 1992,[46]

Emphasizing the mutually complementary nature of bilateral and multilateral efforts in the field of preventing an arms race in outer space, and hoping that concrete results will emerge from those efforts as soon as possible,

Convinced that further measures should be examined in the search for effective and verifiable bilateral and multilateral agreements in order to prevent an arms race in outer space, including the weaponization of outer space,

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[42] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Chile, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, El Salvador, Fiji, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Sudan and Togo.

[43] Resolution 2222 (XXI), annex.

[44] Resolution S-10/2.

[45] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/49/27), sect. III.D (para. 5 of the quoted text).

[46] CD/1125.

Stressing that the growing use of outer space increases the need for greater transparency and better information on the part of the international community,

Recalling in this context its previous resolutions, in particular resolutions 45/55 B of 4 December 1990, 47/51 of 9 December 1992 and 48/74 A of 16 December 1993, in which, inter alia, it reaffirmed the importance of confidence-building measures as means conducive to ensuring the attainment of the objective of the prevention of an arms race in outer space,

Conscious of the benefits of confidence- and security-building measures in the military field,

Recognizing that negotiations for the conclusion of an international agreement or agreements to prevent an arms race in outer space remain a priority task of the Ad Hoc Committee and that the concrete proposals on confidence-building measures could form an integral part of such agreements,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance and urgency of preventing an arms race in outer space and the readiness of all States to contribute to that common objective, in conformity with the provisions of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies;[43]

2. *Reaffirms its recognition*, as stated in the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, that the legal regime applicable to outer space does not in and of itself guarantee the prevention of an arms race in outer space, that the regime plays a significant role in the prevention of an arms race in that environment, that there is a need to consolidate and reinforce that regime and enhance its effectiveness and that it is important to comply strictly with existing agreements, both bilateral and multilateral;

3. *Emphasizes* the necessity of further measures with appropriate and effective provisions for verification to prevent an arms race in outer space;

4. *Calls upon* all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to the objective of the peaceful use of outer space and of the prevention of an arms race in outer space and to refrain from actions contrary to that objective and to the relevant existing treaties in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and promoting international cooperation;

5. *Reiterates* that the Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, has the primary role in the negotiation of a multilateral agreement or agreements, as appropriate, on the prevention of an arms race in outer space in all its aspects;

6. *Invites* the Conference on Disarmament to complete the examination and updating of the mandate contained in its decision of 13 February 1992[46] and to establish an ad hoc committee as early as possible during its 2002 session;

7. *Recognizes*, in this respect, the growing convergence of views on the elaboration of measures designed to strengthen transparency, confidence and security in the peaceful uses of outer space;

8. *Urges* States conducting activities in outer space, as well as States interested in conducting such activities, to keep the Conference on Disarmament informed of the progress of bilateral and multilateral negotiations on the matter, if any, so as to facilitate its work;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space".

RESOLUTIONS 56/24 A to V

56/24. General and complete disarmament

Resolution A

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/536, para. 73),[47] by a recorded vote of 82 to 5, with 62 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Barbados, Belarus, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

Against: Albania, Benin, Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), United States of America

Abstaining: Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mauritius, Monaco, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Yugoslavia

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[47] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Belarus, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Fiji, Haiti and Russian Federation.

A

PRESERVATION OF AND COMPLIANCE WITH THE TREATY ON THE LIMITATION OF ANTI-BALLISTIC MISSILE SYSTEMS

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/60 of 12 December 1995 and 52/30 of 9 December 1997 on compliance with arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements and its resolutions 54/54 A of 1 December 1999 and 55/33 B of 20 November 2000 on preservation of and compliance with the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems,[48]

Recognizing the historical role of the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems of 26 May 1972 between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics as a cornerstone for maintaining global peace and security and strategic stability, and reaffirming its continued validity and relevance, especially in the current international situation,

Stressing the paramount importance of full and strict compliance with the Treaty by the parties,

Recalling that the provisions of the Treaty are intended as a contribution to the creation of more favourable conditions for further negotiations on limiting strategic arms,

Mindful of the obligations of the parties to the Treaty under article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[49]

Concerned that the implementation of any measures undermining the purposes and provisions of the Treaty affects not only the security interests of the parties, but also those of the whole international community,

Recalling the widespread concern about the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery,

1. *Calls* for continued efforts to strengthen the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems[48] and to preserve its integrity and validity so that it remains a cornerstone in maintaining global strategic stability and world peace and in promoting further strategic nuclear arms reductions;

2. *Calls also* for renewed efforts by each of the States parties to preserve and strengthen the Treaty through full and strict compliance;

3. *Calls upon* the parties to the Treaty, in accordance with their obligations under the Treaty, to limit the deployment of anti-ballistic missile systems, to refrain from the deployment of anti-ballistic missile systems for the defence of the territory of their country, not to provide a base for such a defence and not to transfer to other States or deploy outside their national territory anti-ballistic missile systems or their components limited by the Treaty;

4. *Considers* that the implementation of any measure undermining the purposes and the provisions of the Treaty also undermines global strategic stability and world peace and the promotion of further strategic nuclear arms reductions;

5. *Urges* all Member States to support efforts aimed at stemming the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery;

6. *Supports* further efforts by the international community, in the light of emerging developments, towards safeguarding the inviolability and integrity of the Treaty, which is in the strongest interest of the international community;

7. *Welcomes* the ongoing dialogue between the Russian Federation and the United States of America on a new strategic framework premised on openness, mutual confidence and real opportunities for cooperation, which is of paramount importance, especially in a changing security environment, and hopes that this dialogue will successfully lead to substantial reductions in offensive nuclear forces and contribute to the maintenance of international stability;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Preservation of and compliance with the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems".

Resolution B

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/536, para. 73),[50] by a recorded vote of 98 to none, with 58 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

Against: None

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[48] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 944, No. 13446.

[49] Ibid., vol. 729, No. 10485.

[50] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Yugoslavia

B

MISSILES

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/54 F of 1 December 1999 and 55/33 A of 20 November 2000,

Reaffirming the role of the United Nations in the field of arms regulation and disarmament and the commitment of Member States to take concrete steps to strengthen that role,

Realizing the need to promote regional and international peace and security in a world free from the scourge of war and the burden of armaments,

Convinced of the need for a comprehensive approach towards missiles, in a balanced and non-discriminatory manner, as a contribution to international peace and security,

Bearing in mind that the security concerns of Member States at the international and regional levels should be taken into consideration in addressing the issue of missiles,

Underlining the complexities involved in considering the issue of missiles in the conventional context,

Expressing its support for the international efforts against the development and proliferation of all weapons of mass destruction,

Considering that the Secretary-General has been requested, with the assistance of a panel of governmental experts, to prepare a report for the consideration of the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the issue of missiles in all its aspects,

1. *Notes with satisfaction* that the panel of governmental experts established by the Secretary-General held its first session in New York in 2001 and that it intends to convene two more sessions in 2002 in order to complete its mandate;

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 55/33 A;[51]

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General further to seek the views of Member States on the issue of missiles in all its aspects and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Missiles".

Resolution C

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/536, para. 73),[52] by a recorded vote of 98 to 45, with 14 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micrunesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia

Abstaining: Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Brazil, China, Georgia, Israel, Japan, Kazakhstan, Paraguay, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine

C

REDUCING NUCLEAR DANGER

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind that the use of nuclear weapons poses the most serious threat to mankind and to the survival of civilization,

Reaffirming that any use or threat of use of nuclear weapons would constitute a violation of the Charter of the United Nations,

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[51] A/56/136 and Add.1 and 2.

[52] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Bhutan, Cambodia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Fiji, Haiti, India, Jordan, Kenya, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritius, Namibia, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Swaziland, Togo, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Convinced that the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects would seriously enhance the danger of nuclear war,

Convinced also that nuclear disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons are essential to remove the danger of nuclear war,

Considering that, until nuclear weapons cease to exist, it is imperative on the part of the nuclear-weapon States to adopt measures that assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Considering also that the hair-trigger alert of nuclear weapons carries unacceptable risks of unintentional or accidental use of nuclear weapons, which would have catastrophic consequences for all mankind,

Emphasizing the imperative need to adopt measures to avoid accidental, unauthorized or unexplained incidents arising from computer anomaly or other technical malfunctions,

Conscious that limited steps relating to detargeting have been taken by the nuclear-weapon States and that further practical, realistic and mutually reinforcing steps are necessary to contribute to the improvement in the international climate for negotiations leading to the elimination of nuclear weapons,

Mindful that reduction of tensions brought about by a change in nuclear doctrines would positively impact on international peace and security and improve the conditions for the further reduction and the elimination of nuclear weapons,

Reiterating the highest priority accorded to nuclear disarmament in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly[53] and by the international community,

Recalling that in the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*[54] it is stated that there exists an obligation for all States to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control,

Welcoming the call in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[55] to seek to eliminate the dangers posed by weapons of mass destruction and the resolve to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers,

1. *Calls* for a review of nuclear doctrines and, in this context, immediate and urgent steps to reduce the risks of unintentional and accidental use of nuclear weapons;

2. *Requests* the five nuclear-weapon States to take measures towards the implementation of paragraph 1 of the present resolution;

3. *Calls upon* Member States to take the necessary measures to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects and to promote nuclear disarmament, with the objective of eliminating nuclear weapons;

4. *Takes note* of the report[56] prepared by the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters and submitted by the Secretary-General in pursuance of paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 55/33 N of 20 November 2000, in particular the seven recommendations highlighted for further action;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take steps towards the implementation of the seven recommendations identified in the report of the Advisory Board that would significantly reduce the risk of nuclear war, including the proposal contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration for convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Reducing nuclear danger".

Resolution D

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/536, para. 73)[57]

D

CONVENING OF THE FOURTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DEVOTED TO DISARMAMENT

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/75 I of 15 December 1994, 50/70 F of 12 December 1995, 51/45 C of 10 December 1996, 52/38 F of 9 December 1997, 53/77 AA of 4 December 1998, 54/54 U of 1 December 1999 and 55/33 M of 20 November 2000,

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[53] Resolution S-10/2.

[54] A/51/218, annex; see also *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 1996*, p. 226.

[55] See resolution 55/2.

[56] See A/56/400.

[57] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by South Africa (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

Recalling also that, there being a consensus to do so in each case, three special sessions of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament were held, in 1978, 1982 and 1988, respectively,

Bearing in mind the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[53] adopted by consensus at the first special session devoted to disarmament, which included the Declaration, the Programme of Action and the Machinery for disarmament,

Bearing in mind also the objective of general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

Taking note of paragraph 145 of the Final Document of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998,[58] which supported the convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, which would offer an opportunity to review, from a perspective more in tune with the current international situation, the most critical aspects of the process of disarmament and to mobilize the international community and public opinion in favour of the elimination of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction and of the control and reduction of conventional weapons,

Taking note also of the report of the Disarmament Commission on its 1999 substantive session[59] and of the fact that no consensus was reached on the item entitled "Fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament",

Desiring to build upon the substantive exchange of views on the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament during the 1999 substantive session of the Disarmament Commission,

Reiterating its conviction that a special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament can set the future course of action in the field of disarmament, arms control and related international security matters,

Emphasizing the importance of multilateralism in the process of disarmament, arms control and related international security matters,

Noting that, with the recent accomplishments made by the international community in the field of weapons of mass destruction as well as conventional arms, the following years would be opportune for the international community to start the process of reviewing the state of affairs in the entire field of disarmament and arms control in the post-cold-war era,

Taking note of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[55] in which heads of State and Government resolved to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, and to keep all options open for achieving that aim, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers,

Taking note also of the report of the Secretary-General[60] regarding the views of Member States on the objectives, agenda and timing of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament,

1. *Decides*, subject to the emergence of a consensus on its objectives and agenda, to convene the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the objectives, agenda and timing of the special session and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament".

Resolution E

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/536, para. 73)[61]

E

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DISARMAMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

The General Assembly,

Recalling the provisions of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly[53] concerning the relationship between disarmament and development,

Recalling also the adoption on 11 September 1987 of the Final Document of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development,[62]

Recalling further its resolutions 49/75 J of 15 December 1994, 50/70 G of 12 December 1995, 51/45 D of 10 December 1996, 52/38 D of 9 December 1997, 53/77 K of 4 December 1998, 54/54 T of 1 December 1999 and 55/33 L of 20 November 2000,

Bearing in mind the Final Document of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned

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[58] A/53/667-S/1998/1071, annex I.

[59] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/54/42).

[60] A/56/166.

[61] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by South Africa (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

[62] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.87.IX.8.

Countries, held at Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998,[58] and the Final Document of the Thirteenth Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Cartagena, Colombia, on 8 and 9 April 2000,[63]

Welcoming the different activities organized by the high-level Steering Group on Disarmament and Development, as described in the report of the Secretary-General,[64]

Stressing the growing importance of the symbiotic relationship between disarmament and development in current international relations,

1. *Calls upon* the high-level Steering Group on Disarmament and Development to strengthen and enhance its programme of activities, in accordance with the mandate set out in the action programme adopted at the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development;[65]

2. *Urges* the international community to devote part of the resources made available by the implementation of disarmament and arms limitation agreements to economic and social development, with a view to reducing the ever-widening gap between developed and developing countries;

3. *Invites* all Member States to communicate to the Secretary-General, by 15 April 2002, their views and proposals for the implementation of the action programme adopted at the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, as well as any other views and proposals with a view to achieving the goals of the action programme, within the framework of current international relations;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take action, through appropriate organs and within available resources, for the implementation of the action programme adopted at the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Relationship between disarmament and development".

Resolution F

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/536, para. 73),[66] by a recorded vote of 154 to none, with 5 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: None

Abstaining: France, Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

F

OBSERVANCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL NORMS IN THE DRAFTING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF AGREEMENTS ON DISARMAMENT AND ARMS CONTROL

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/70 M of 12 December 1995, 51/45 E of 10 December 1996, 52/38 E of 9 December 1997, 53/77 J of 4 December 1998, 54/54 S of 1 December 1999 and 55/33 K of 20 November 2000,

Emphasizing the importance of the observance of environmental norms in the preparation and implementation of disarmament and arms limitation agreements,

Recognizing that it is necessary to take duly into account the agreements adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, as well as prior relevant agreements, in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms limitation,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[67]

Mindful of the detrimental environment effects of the use of nuclear weapons,

1. *Reaffirms* that international disarmament forums should take fully into account the relevant environmental norms in negotiating treaties and agreements on disarmament and arms limitation and that all States, through their actions, should fully contribute to ensuring compliance with the aforementioned

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[63] A/54/917-S/2000/580, annex.

[64] A/56/183.

[65] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.87.IX.8, para. 35.

[66] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by South Africa (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Alighed Contries).

[67] A/56/165 and Add.1.

norms in the implementation of treaties and conventions to which they are parties;

2. *Calls upon* States to adopt unilateral, bilateral, regional and multilateral measures so as to contribute to ensuring the application of scientific and technological progress in the framework of international security, disarmament and other related spheres, without detriment to the environment or to its effective contribution to attaining sustainable development;

3. *Welcomes* the information provided by Member States on the implementation of the measures they have adopted to promote the objectives envisaged in the present resolution;[67]

4. *Invites* all Member States to communicate to the Secretary-General information on the measures they have adopted to promote the objectives envisaged in the present resolution, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report containing this information to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control".

Resolution G

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/536, para. 73),[68] by a recorded vote of 148 to 4, with 4 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: France, Monaco, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: India, Israel, Russian Federation, Spain

G

NUCLEAR-WEAPON-FREE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE AND ADJACENT AREAS

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/45 B of 10 December 1996, 52/38 N of 9 December 1997, 53/77 Q of 4 December 1998, 54/54 L of 1 December 1999 and 55/33 I of 20 November 2000,

Welcoming the adoption by the Disarmament Commission at its 1999 substantive session of a text entitled "Establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned",[69]

Determined to pursue the total elimination of nuclear weapons,

Determined also to continue to contribute to the prevention of the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects and to the process of general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control, in particular in the field of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, with a view to strengthening international peace and security, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling the provisions on nuclear-weapon-free zones of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[53] the first special session devoted to disarmament,

Stressing the importance of the treaties of Tlatelolco,[70] Rarotonga,[71] Bangkok[72] and Pelindaba,[73] establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones, as well as the Antarctic Treaty,[74] to, inter alia, achieve a world entirely free of nuclear weapons,

Underlining the value of enhancing cooperation among the nuclear-weapon-free zone treaty members by means of mechanisms such as joint meetings of States parties, signatories and observers to those treaties,

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[68] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Liberia, Madagascar, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[69] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/54/42), annex I.

[70] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

[71] See *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 10: 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IX.7), appendix VII.

[72] Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone.

[73] A/50/426, annex.

[74] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 402, No. 5778.

Recalling the applicable principles and rules of international law relating to the freedom of the high seas and the rights of passage through maritime space, including those of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,[75]

1. *Welcomes* the continued contribution that the Antarctic Treaty,[74] and the treaties of Tlatelolco,[70] Rarotonga,[71] Bangkok[72] and Pelindaba[73] are making towards freeing the southern hemisphere and adjacent areas covered by those treaties from nuclear weapons;

2. *Calls* for the ratification of the treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok and Pelindaba by all States of the region, and calls upon all concerned States to continue to work together in order to facilitate adherence to the protocols to nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties by all relevant States that have not yet done so;

3. *Welcomes* the steps taken to conclude further nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned, and calls upon all States to consider all relevant proposals, including those reflected in its resolutions on the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in the Middle East and South Asia;

4. *Convinced* of the important role of nuclear-weapon-free zones in strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime and in extending the areas of the world that are nuclear-weapon-free, and, with particular reference to the responsibilities of the nuclear-weapon States, calls upon all States to support the process of nuclear disarmament and to work for the total elimination of all nuclear weapons;

5. *Calls upon* the States parties and signatories to the treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok and Pelindaba, in order to pursue the common goals envisaged in those treaties and to promote the nuclear-weapon-free status of the southern hemisphere and adjacent areas, to explore and implement further ways and means of cooperation among themselves and their treaty agencies;

6. *Welcomes* the vigorous efforts being made among States parties and signatories to those treaties to promote their common objectives, and considers that an international conference of States parties and signatories to the nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties might be held to support the common goals envisaged in those treaties;

7. *Encourages* the competent authorities of the nuclear-weapon-free-zone treaties to provide assistance to the States parties and signatories to those treaties so as to facilitate the accomplishment of these goals;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas".

Resolution H

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/536, para. 73)[76]

H

REGIONAL DISARMAMENT

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 45/58 P of 4 December 1990, 46/36 I of 6 December 1991, 47/52 J of 9 December 1992, 48/75 I of 16 December 1993, 49/75 N of 15 December 1994, 50/70 K of 12 December 1995, 51/45 K of 10 December 1996, 52/38 P of 9 December 1997, 53/77 O of 4 December 1998, 54/54 K of 1 December 1999 and 55/33 O of 20 November 2000 on regional disarmament,

Believing that the efforts of the international community to move towards the ideal of general and complete disarmament are guided by the inherent human desire for genuine peace and security, the elimination of the danger of war and the release of economic, intellectual and other resources for peaceful pursuits,

Affirming the abiding commitment of all States to the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations in the conduct of their international relations,

Noting that essential guidelines for progress towards general and complete disarmament were adopted at the tenth special session of the General Assembly,[53]

Taking note of the guidelines and recommendations for regional approaches to disarmament within the context of global security adopted by the Disarmament Commission at its 1993 substantive session,[77]

Welcoming the prospects of genuine progress in the field of disarmament engendered in recent years as a result of negotiations between the two super-Powers,

Taking note of the recent proposals for disarmament at the regional and subregional levels,

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[75] See *The Law of the Sea: Official Texts of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 and of the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 with Index and Excerpts from the Final Act of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.V.10).

[76] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, Colombia, Egypt, Fiji, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Sudan and Turkey.

[77] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/48/42), annex II.

Recognizing the importance of confidence-building measures for regional and international peace and security,

Convinced that endeavours by countries to promote regional disarmament, taking into account the specific characteristics of each region and in accordance with the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armaments, would enhance the security of all States and would thus contribute to international peace and security by reducing the risk of regional conflicts,

1. *Stresses* that sustained efforts are needed, within the framework of the Conference on Disarmament and under the umbrella of the United Nations, to make progress on the entire range of disarmament issues;

2. *Affirms* that global and regional approaches to disarmament complement each other and should therefore be pursued simultaneously to promote regional and international peace and security;

3. *Calls upon* States to conclude agreements, wherever possible, for nuclear non-proliferation, disarmament and confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels;

4. *Welcomes* the initiatives towards disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and security undertaken by some countries at the regional and subregional levels;

5. *Supports and encourages* efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels to ease regional tensions and to further disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation measures at the regional and subregional levels;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Regional disarmament".

Resolution I

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/536, para. 73),[78] by a recorded vote of 151 to 1, with 1 abstention, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: India

Abstaining: Bhutan

I

CONVENTIONAL ARMS CONTROL AT THE REGIONAL AND SUBREGIONAL LEVELS

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/75 J of 16 December 1993, 49/75 O of 15 December 1994, 50/70 L of 12 December 1995, 51/45 Q of 10 December 1996, 52/38 Q of 9 December 1997, 53/77 P of 4 December 1998, 54/54 M of 1 December 1999 and 55/33 P of 20 November 2000,

Recognizing the crucial role of conventional arms control in promoting regional and international peace and security,

Convinced that conventional arms control needs to be pursued primarily in the regional and subregional contexts since most threats to peace and security in the post-cold-war era arise mainly among States located in the same region or subregion,

Aware that the preservation of a balance in the defence capabilities of States at the lowest level of armaments would contribute to peace and stability and should be a prime objective of conventional arms control,

Desirous of promoting agreements to strengthen regional peace and security at the lowest possible level of armaments and military forces,

Noting with particular interest the initiatives taken in this regard in different regions of the world, in particular the commencement of consultations among a number of Latin American countries and the proposals for conventional arms control made in the context of South Asia, and recognizing, in the context of this subject, the relevance and value of the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe,[79] which is a cornerstone of European security,

Believing that militarily significant States and States with larger military capabilities have a special responsibility in promoting such agreements for regional security,

Believing also that an important objective of conventional arms control in regions of tension should be to prevent the possibility of military attack launched by surprise and to avoid aggression,

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[78] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, Belarus, Fiji, Germany, Italy, Nepal, Pakistan, Spain, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Ukraine.

[79] CD/1064.

1. *Decides* to give urgent consideration to the issues involved in conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels;

2. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to consider the formulation of principles that can serve as a framework for regional agreements on conventional arms control, and looks forward to a report of the Conference on this subject;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the meantime, to seek the views of Member States on the subject and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels".

Resolution J

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/536, para. 73)[80]

J

THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT DECISION (CD/1547) OF 11 AUGUST 1998 TO ESTABLISH, UNDER ITEM 1 OF ITS AGENDA ENTITLED "CESSATION OF THE NUCLEAR ARMS RACE AND NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT", AN AD HOC COMMITTEE TO NEGOTIATE, ON THE BASIS OF THE REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COORDINATOR (CD/1299) AND THE MANDATE CONTAINED THEREIN, A NON-DISCRIMINATORY, MULTILATERAL AND INTERNATIONALLY AND EFFECTIVELY VERIFIABLE TREATY BANNING THE PRODUCTION OF FISSILE MATERIAL FOR NUCLEAR WEAPONS OR OTHER NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVE DEVICES

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/75 L of 16 December 1993, 53/77 I of 4 December 1998 and 55/33 Y of 20 November 2000,

Convinced that a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices would be a significant contribution to nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation,

Recalling the 1998 report of the Conference on Disarmament, in which, inter alia, the Conference records that, in proceeding to take a decision on this matter, that decision is without prejudice to any further decisions on the establishment of further subsidiary bodies under agenda item 1 and that intensive consultations will be pursued to seek the views of the members of the Conference on Disarmament on appropriate methods and approaches for dealing with agenda item 1, taking into consideration all proposals and views in that respect,[81]

1. *Recalls* the decision of the Conference on Disarmament[81] to establish, under item 1 of its agenda entitled "Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament", an ad hoc committee which shall negotiate, on the basis of the report of the Special Coordinator[82] and the mandate contained therein, a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices;

2. *Urges* the Conference on Disarmament to agree on a programme of work that includes the immediate commencement of negotiations on such a treaty.

Resolution K

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/536, para. 73)[83]

K

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION, STOCKPILING AND USE OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject of chemical weapons, in particular resolution 55/33 H of 20 November 2000, adopted without a vote, in which it noted with appreciation the ongoing work to achieve the objective and purpose of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction,[84]

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[80] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Kenya, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mali, Monaco, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[81] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/53/27), para. 10.

[82] CD/1299.

[83] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Canada, Poland and Uruguay.

[84] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/47/27), appendix I.

Determined to achieve the effective prohibition of the development, production, acquisition, transfer, stockpiling and use of chemical weapons and their destruction,

Noting with satisfaction that since the adoption of resolution 55/33 H, three additional States have ratified or acceded to the Convention, bringing the total number of States parties to the Convention to one hundred and forty-three,

1. *Emphasizes* the necessity of universal adherence to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction,[84] and calls upon all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention without delay;

2. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing work of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons to achieve the objective and purpose of the Convention, to ensure the full implementation of its provisions, including those for international verification of compliance with it, and to provide a forum for consultation and cooperation among States parties;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in verifying compliance with the provisions of the Convention as well as in promoting the timely and efficient accomplishment of all its objectives;

4. *Also stresses* the vital importance of full and effective implementation of and compliance with all provisions of the Convention;

5. *Urges* all States parties to the Convention to meet in full and on time their obligations under the Convention and to support the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in its implementation activities;

6. *Stresses* the importance to the Convention that all possessors of chemical weapons, chemical weapons production facilities or chemical weapons development facilities, including previously declared possessor States, should be among the States parties to the Convention, and welcomes progress to that end;

7. *Welcomes* the cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and the signature of the Relationship Agreement between the United Nations and the Organization, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction".

Resolution L

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/536, para. 73)[85]

L

PROHIBITION OF THE DUMPING OF RADIOACTIVE WASTES

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind resolutions CM/Res.1153 (XLVIII) of 1988[86] and CM/Res.1225 (L) of 1989,[87] adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, concerning the dumping of nuclear and industrial wastes in Africa,

Welcoming resolution GC(XXXIV)/RES/530 establishing a Code of Practice on the International Transboundary Movement of Radioactive Waste, adopted on 21 September 1990 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its thirty-fourth regular session,[88]

Taking note of the commitment by the participants in the Summit on Nuclear Safety and Security, held in Moscow on 19 and 20 April 1996, to ban the dumping at sea of radioactive wastes,[89]

Considering its resolution 2602 C (XXIV) of 16 December 1969, in which it requested the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament,[90] inter alia, to consider effective methods of control against the use of radiological methods of warfare,

Aware of the potential hazards underlying any use of radioactive wastes that would constitute radiological warfare and its implications for regional and international security, in particular for the security of developing countries,

Recalling all its resolutions on the matter since its forty-third session in 1988, including its resolution 51/45 J of 10 December 1996,

Also recalling resolution GC(45)/RES/10 adopted by consensus on 21 September 2001 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its forty-fifth regular session,[91] in which States shipping radioactive materials are invited to provide, as appropriate, assurances to concerned States, upon their request, that the national regulations of the shipping State take into account the Agency's transport regulations and to provide them with relevant information relating to the shipment of such materials; the information provided should in no case be contradictory to the measures of physical security and safety,

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[85] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by the Sudan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States).

[86] See A/43/398, annex I.

[87] See A/44/603, annex I.

[88] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Thirty-fourth Regular Session, 17–21 September 1990* (GC(XXXIV)/RESOLUTIONS (1990)).

[89] A/51/131, annex I, para. 20.

[90] The Conference of the Committee on Disarmament became the Committee on Disarmament as from the tenth special session of the General Assembly. The Committee on Disarmament was redesignated the Conference on Disarmament as from 7 February 1984.

Welcoming the adoption at Vienna, on 5 September 1997, of the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management,[92] as recommended by the participants at the Summit on Nuclear Safety and Security,

Noting with satisfaction that the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management entered into force on 18 June 2001, and noting also that the Secretariat has convened a preparatory meeting of the Contracting Parties, to be held from 10 to 14 December 2001, to prepare for the first Review Meeting of the Contracting Parties,

Desirous of promoting the implementation of paragraph 76 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[53] the first special session devoted to disarmament,

1. *Takes note* of the part of the report of the Conference on Disarmament relating to a future convention on the prohibition of radiological weapons;[93]

2. *Expresses grave concern* regarding any use of nuclear wastes that would constitute radiological warfare and have grave implications for the national security of all States;

3. *Calls upon* all States to take appropriate measures with a view to preventing any dumping of nuclear or radioactive wastes that would infringe upon the sovereignty of States;

4. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to take into account, in the negotiations for a convention on the prohibition of radiological weapons, radioactive wastes as part of the scope of such a convention;

5. *Also requests* the Conference on Disarmament to intensify efforts towards an early conclusion of such a convention and to include in its report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session the progress recorded in the negotiations on this subject;

6. *Takes note* of resolution CM/Res.1356 (LIV) of 1991, adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity,[94] on the Bamako Convention on the Ban on the Import of Hazardous Wastes into Africa and on the Control of Their Transboundary Movements within Africa;

7. *Expresses the hope* that the effective implementation of the International Atomic Energy Agency Code of Practice on the International Transboundary Movement of Radioactive Waste will enhance the protection of all States from the dumping of radioactive wastes on their territories;

8. *Appeals* to all Member States that have not yet taken the necessary steps to become party to the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management[92] to do so in time to attend the first Review Meeting of the Contracting Parties;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes".

Resolution M

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/536, para. 73),[95] by a recorded vote of 138 to none, with 19 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg,

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[91] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Forty-fifth Regular Session, 17-21 September 2001* (GC(45)/RES/DEC(2001)).

[92] See GOV/INF/821-GC(41)/INF/12, appendix 1.

[93] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/54/27), chap. III, sect. E.

[94] See A/46/390, annex I.

[95] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Azerbaijan, China, Cuba, Egypt, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Micronesia (Federated States of), Morocco, Myanmar, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic, United States of America, Viet Nam

M

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE, STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION AND TRANSFER OF ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/54 B of 1 December 1999 and 55/33 V of 20 November 2000,

Reaffirming its determination to put an end to the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines, which kill or maim hundreds of people every week, mostly innocent and defenceless civilians and especially children, obstruct economic development and reconstruction, inhibit the repatriation of refugees and internally displaced persons, and have other severe consequences for years after emplacement,

Believing it necessary to do the utmost to contribute in an efficient and coordinated manner to facing the challenge of removing anti-personnel mines placed throughout the world, and to ensure their destruction,

Wishing to do the utmost in ensuring assistance for the care and rehabilitation, including the social and economic reintegration, of mine victims,

Welcoming the entry into force on 1 March 1999 of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction,[96] and noting with satisfaction the work undertaken to implement the Convention and the substantial progress made towards addressing the global landmine problem,

Recalling the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention, held at Maputo from 3 to 7 May 1999, and the reaffirmation made in the Maputo Declaration of a commitment to the total eradication of anti-personnel mines,[97]

Recalling also the Second Meeting of States Parties to the Convention, held at Geneva from 11 to 15 September 2000, and the Declaration of the Second Meeting of States Parties reaffirming the commitment to implement completely and fully all provisions of the Convention,[98]

Recalling further the Third Meeting of States Parties to the Convention, held at Managua from 18 to 21 September 2001, and the Declaration of the Third Meeting of States Parties reaffirming the unwavering commitment both to the total eradication of anti-personnel mines and to addressing the insidious and inhumane effects of those weapons,[99]

Noting with satisfaction that additional States have ratified or acceded to the Convention, bringing the total number of States that have formally accepted the obligations of the Convention to one hundred and twenty-two,

Emphasizing the desirability of attracting the adherence of all States to the Convention, and determined to work strenuously towards the promotion of its universalization,

Noting with regret that anti-personnel mines continue to be used in conflicts around the world, causing human suffering and impeding post-conflict development,

1. *Invites* all States that have not signed the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction[96] to accede to it without delay;

2. *Urges* all States that have signed but not ratified the Convention to ratify it without delay;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the full and effective implementation of, and compliance with, the Convention;

4. *Urges* all States parties to provide the Secretary-General with complete and timely information, as required under article 7 of the Convention, in order to promote transparency and compliance with the Convention;

5. *Invites* all States that have not ratified the Convention or acceded to it to provide, on a voluntary basis, information to make global mine action efforts more effective;

6. *Renews its call upon* all States and other relevant parties to work together to promote, support and advance the care, rehabilitation and social and economic reintegration of mine victims, mine awareness programmes, and the removal of anti-personnel mines placed throughout the world and the assurance of their destruction;

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[96] See CD/1478.

[97] See APLC/MSP.1/1999/1, part II.

[98] See APLC/MSP.2/2000/1, part II.

[99] See APLC/MSP.3/2001/1, part II.

7. *Invites and encourages* all interested States, the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations to participate in the programme of inter-sessional work established at the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention and further developed at the Second and Third Meetings of States Parties to the Convention;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in accordance with article 11, paragraph 2, of the Convention, to undertake the preparations necessary to convene the Fourth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention at Geneva from 16 to 20 September 2002, and, on behalf of States parties and in accordance with article 11, paragraph 4, of the Convention, to invite States not parties to the Convention, as well as the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations to attend the Meeting as observers;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction".

Resolution N

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/536, para. 73),[100] by a recorded vote of 139 to 3, with 19 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania. Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: India, Micronesia (Federated States of), United States of America

Abstaining: Belarus, Bhutan, Brazil, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Mauritius, Mexico, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, Russian Federation, San Marino, South Africa, Sweden

N

A PATH TO THE TOTAL ELIMINATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/75 H of 15 December 1994, 50/70 C of 12 December 1995, 51/45 G of 10 December 1996, 52/38 K of 9 December 1997, 53/77 U of 4 December 1998, 54/54 D of 1 December 1999 and 55/33 R of 20 November 2000,

Recognizing that the enhancement of international peace and security and the promotion of nuclear disarmament mutually complement and strengthen each other,

Reaffirming the crucial importance of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[49] as the cornerstone of the international regime for nuclear non-proliferation and as an essential foundation for the pursuit of nuclear disarmament,

Recognizing the progress made by the nuclear-weapon States in the reduction of their nuclear weapons unilaterally or through negotiations, including the START process, and the efforts made towards nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation by the international community,

Reaffirming the conviction that further advancement in nuclear disarmament will contribute to consolidating the international regime for nuclear non-proliferation, ensuring international peace and security,

Bearing in mind the recent nuclear tests, as well as the regional situations, which pose a challenge to international efforts to strengthen the global regime for non-proliferation of nuclear weapons,

Taking note of the report of the Tokyo Forum for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament,[101] bearing in mind the various views of Member States on the report,

Welcoming the successful adoption of the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[102] and stressing the importance of implementing its conclusions,

Also welcoming the successful convening of the International Symposium for the Further Reinforcement of International Atomic Energy Agency Safeguards in the Asia-

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[100] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Fiji, Japan, Lebanon and Papua New Guinea.

[101] A/54/205-S/1999/853, annex.

[102] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I–IV)).

Pacific Region: Towards Universalization of Additional Protocol, recently held in Tokyo, and sharing the hope for continued efforts to hold similar symposiums in other regions for strengthening the International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards system, including universalization of its safeguards agreements, and the additional protocols thereto,

Encouraging the Russian Federation and the United States of America to continue their intensive consultations on the interrelated subjects of offensive and defensive systems and to complete them with a view to enhancing international peace and security,

Calling for efforts towards the success of the Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, to be convened in accordance with article XIV of the Treaty,[103]

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of achieving the universality of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[49] and calls upon States not parties to the Treaty to accede to it as non-nuclear-weapon States without delay and without conditions;

2. *Also reaffirms* the importance for all States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to fulfil their obligations under the Treaty;

3. *Stresses* the central importance of the following practical steps for the systematic and progressive efforts to implement article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and paragraphs 3 and 4 (*c*) of the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty:[104]

(*a*) The importance and urgency of signatures and ratifications, without delay and without conditions and in accordance with constitutional processes, to achieve the early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty[103] as well as a moratorium on nuclear-weapon-test explosions or any other nuclear explosions pending the entry into force of that Treaty;

(*b*) The establishment of an ad hoc committee in the Conference on Disarmament as early as possible during its 2002 session to negotiate a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, in accordance with the report of the Special Coordinator of 1995[82] and the mandate contained therein, taking into consideration both nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation objectives, with a view to its conclusion within five years and, pending its entry into force, a moratorium on the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons;

(*c*) The establishment of an appropriate subsidiary body with a mandate to deal with nuclear disarmament in the Conference on Disarmament as early as possible during its 2002 session in the context of establishing a programme of work;

(*d*) The inclusion of the principle of irreversibility to apply to nuclear disarmament, nuclear and other related arms control and reduction measures;

(*e*) An unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States, as agreed at the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals, leading to nuclear disarmament, to which all States parties to the Treaty are committed under article VI of the Treaty;

(*f*) Deep reductions by the Russian Federation and the United States of America in their strategic offensive arsenals, while placing great importance on the existing multilateral treaties, with a view to maintaining and strengthening strategic stability and international security;

(*g*) Steps by all the nuclear-weapon States leading to nuclear disarmament in a way that promotes international stability, and based on the principle of undiminished security for all:

(i) Further efforts by all the nuclear-weapon States to continue to reduce their nuclear arsenals unilaterally;

(ii) Increased transparency by the nuclear-weapon States with regard to their nuclear weapons capabilities and the implementation of agreements pursuant to article VI of the Treaty and as voluntary confidence-building measures to support further progress on nuclear disarmament;

(iii) The further reduction of non-strategic nuclear weapons, based on unilateral initiatives and as an integral part of the nuclear arms reduction and disarmament process;

(iv) Concrete agreed measures to reduce further the operational status of nuclear weapons systems;

(v) A diminishing role for nuclear weapons in security policies to minimize the risk that these weapons will ever be used and to facilitate the process of their total elimination;

(vi) The engagement, as soon as appropriate, of all nuclear-weapon States in the process leading to the total elimination of their nuclear weapons;

(*h*) Reaffirmation that the ultimate objective of the efforts of States in the disarmament process is general and complete disarmament under effective international control;

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[103] See resolution 50/245.

[104] *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex, decision 2.

4. *Recognizes* that the realization of a world free of nuclear weapons will require further steps, including deeper reductions in nuclear weapons by all nuclear-weapon States in the process of working towards achieving their elimination;

5. *Invites* the nuclear-weapon States to keep the States Members of the United Nations duly informed of the progress or efforts made towards nuclear disarmament;

6. *Emphasizes* the importance of a successful Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons in 2005 as the first session of the Preparatory Committee is convened in 2002;

7. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts in the dismantlement of nuclear weapons, notes the importance of the safe and effective management of the resultant fissile materials and calls for arrangements by all the nuclear-weapon States to place, as soon as practicable, the fissile material designated by each of them as no longer required for military purposes under the International Atomic Energy Agency or other relevant international verification and arrangements for the disposition of such material for peaceful purposes in order to ensure that such material remains permanently outside military programmes;

8. *Stresses* the importance of further development of the verification capabilities, including International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards, that will be required to provide assurance of compliance with nuclear disarmament agreements for the achievement and maintenance of a nuclear-weapon-free world;

9. *Calls upon* all States to redouble their efforts to prevent and curb the proliferation of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction, confirming and strengthening, if necessary, their policies not to transfer equipment, materials or technology that could contribute to the proliferation of those weapons, while ensuring that such policies are consistent with the obligations of States under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;

10. *Also calls upon* all States to maintain the highest possible standards of security, safe custody, effective control and physical protection of all materials that could contribute to the proliferation of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction in order, inter alia, to prevent those materials from falling into the hands of terrorists;

11. *Welcomes* the adoption and stresses the importance of resolution GC(45)/RES/13,[91] adopted on 21 September 2001 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency, in which it is recommended that the Director General of the Agency, its Board of Governors and member States continue to consider implementing the elements of the plan of action outlined in resolution GC(44)/RES/19,[105] adopted on 22 September 2000 by the General Conference of the Agency, to promote and facilitate the conclusion and entry into force of safeguards agreements and additional protocols, and calls for the early and full implementation of that resolution;

12. *Encourages* the constructive role played by civil society in promoting nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament.

Resolution O

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/536, para. 73),[106] by a recorded vote of 156 to 1, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: India

Abstaining: Cuba, Israel, Pakistan

O

2005 REVIEW CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE TREATY ON THE NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND ITS PREPARATORY COMMITTEE

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2373 (XXII) of 12 June 1968, the annex to which contains the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[49]

Noting the provisions of article VIII, paragraph 3, of the Treaty regarding the convening of review conferences at five-year intervals,

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[105] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Forty-fourth Regular Session, 18–22 September 2000* (GC(44)/RES/DEC (2000)).

[106] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Algeria.

Recalling the decision of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on improving the effectiveness of the strengthened review process for the Treaty,[107] which reaffirmed the provisions in the decision on strengthening the review process for the Treaty, adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty,[108]

Noting the decision on strengthening the review process for the Treaty[108] in which it was agreed that Review Conferences should continue to be held every five years, and noting that, accordingly, the next Review Conference should be held in 2005,

Recalling the decision of the 2000 Review Conference that three sessions of the Preparatory Committee should be held in the years prior to the Review Conference,[107]

Recalling also its resolution 55/33 D of 20 November 2000, in which it welcomed the adoption by consensus of the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[102]

1. *Takes note* of the decision of the parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, following appropriate consultations, to hold the first session of the Preparatory Committee in New York from 8 to 19 April 2002;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to render the necessary assistance and to provide such services, including summary records, as may be required for the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and its Preparatory Committee.

Resolution P

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/536, para. 73)[109]

P

CONSOLIDATION OF PEACE THROUGH PRACTICAL DISARMAMENT MEASURES

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/45 N of 10 December 1996, 52/38 G of 9 December 1997, 53/77 M of 4 December 1998, 54/54 H of 1 December 1999 and 55/33 G of 20 November 2000,

Convinced that a comprehensive and integrated approach towards certain practical disarmament measures often is a prerequisite to maintaining and consolidating peace and security and thus provides a basis for effective post-conflict peace-building, namely the rehabilitation and social and economic development in areas that have suffered from conflict; such measures are, inter alia, collection and responsible disposal, preferably through destruction, of weapons obtained through illicit trafficking or illicit manufacture as well as of weapons and ammunition declared by competent national authorities to be surplus to requirements, particularly with regard to small arms and light weapons, unless another form of disposition or use has been officially authorized and provided that such weapons have been duly marked and registered; confidence-building measures; disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of former combatants; demining; and conversion,

Noting with satisfaction that the international community is more than ever aware of the importance of such practical disarmament measures, especially with regard to the growing problems arising from the excessive accumulation and uncontrolled spread of small arms and light weapons, which pose a threat to peace and security and reduce the prospects for economic development in many regions, particularly in post-conflict situations,

Stressing that further efforts are needed in order to develop and effectively implement programmes of practical disarmament in affected areas so as to complement, on a case-by-case basis, peacekeeping and peace-building efforts,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General prepared with the assistance of the Group of Governmental Experts on Small Arms,[110] and in particular the recommendations contained therein, as an important contribution to the consolidation of the peace process through practical disarmament measures,

Taking into account the deliberations at the 2001 substantive session of the Disarmament Commission in Working Group II on agenda item 5, entitled "Practical confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms",[111] and encouraging the Disarmament Commission to continue its efforts aimed at the identification of such measures,

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[107] See *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I.

[108] *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex, decision 1.

[109] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zambia.

[110] A/54/258.

Welcoming the Programme of Action adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[112] which should be implemented expeditiously,

1. *Stresses*, in the context of the present resolution, the particular relevance of the "Guidelines on conventional arms control/limitation and disarmament, with particular emphasis on consolidation of peace in the context of General Assembly resolution 51/45 N",[113] adopted by the Disarmament Commission by consensus at its 1999 substantive session;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures, submitted pursuant to resolution 51/45 N,[114] and once again encourages Member States, as well as regional arrangements and agencies, to lend their support to the implementation of recommendations contained therein;

3. *Welcomes* the activities undertaken by the group of interested States that was formed in New York in March 1998, and invites the group to continue to analyse lessons learned from previous disarmament and peace-building projects, as well as to promote new practical disarmament measures to consolidate peace, especially as undertaken or designed by affected States themselves;

4. *Encourages* Member States, including the group of interested States, to lend their support to the Secretary-General in responding to requests by Member States to collect and destroy small arms and light weapons in post-conflict situations;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, taking into consideration the activities of the group of interested States in this regard;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures".

Resolution Q

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/536, para. 73),[115] by a recorded vote of 135 to none, with 23 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Algeria, Bahrain, China, Comoros, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Myanmar, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Yemen

Q

TRANSPARENCY IN ARMAMENTS

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 46/36 L of 9 December 1991, 47/52 L of 15 December 1992, 48/75 E of 16 December 1993, 49/75 C of 15 December 1994, 50/70 D of 12 December 1995,

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[111] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/56/42).

[112] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), para. 24.

[113] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/54/42), annex III.

[114] A/52/289.

[115] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zambia.

51/45 H of 10 December 1996, 52/38 R of 9 December 1997, 53/77 V of 4 December 1998, 54/54 O of 1 December 1999 and 55/33 U of 20 November 2000 entitled "Transparency in armaments",

Continuing to take the view that an enhanced level of transparency in armaments contributes greatly to confidence-building and security among States and that the establishment of the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms[116] constitutes an important step forward in the promotion of transparency in military matters,

Welcoming the consolidated report of the Secretary-General on the Register,[117] which includes the returns of Member States for 2000,

Welcoming also the response of Member States to the request contained in paragraphs 9 and 10 of resolution 46/36 L to provide data on their imports and exports of arms, as well as available background information regarding their military holdings, procurement through national production and relevant policies,

Stressing that the continuing operation of the Register and its further development should be reviewed in order to secure a Register that is capable of attracting the widest possible participation,

1. *Reaffirms* its determination to ensure the effective operation of the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms,[116] as provided for in paragraphs 7 to 10 of resolution 46/36 L;

2. *Calls upon* Member States, with a view to achieving universal participation, to provide the Secretary-General by 31 May annually with the requested data and information for the Register, including nil reports if appropriate, on the basis of resolutions 46/36 L and 47/52 L, the recommendations contained in paragraph 64 of the 1997 report of the Secretary-General on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development[118] and the recommendations contained in paragraph 94 of the 2000 report of the Secretary-General and the appendices and annexes thereto;[119]

3. *Invites* Member States in a position to do so, pending further development of the Register, to provide additional information on procurement from national production and military holdings and to make use of the "Remarks" column in the standardized reporting form to provide additional information such as types or models;

4. *Reaffirms* its decision, with a view to further development of the Register, to keep the scope of and participation in the Register under review and, to that end:

(*a*) Recalls its request to Member States to provide the Secretary-General with their views on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development and on transparency measures related to weapons of mass destruction;

(*b*) Requests the Secretary-General, with the assistance of a group of governmental experts to be convened in 2003, on the basis of equitable geographical representation, to prepare a report on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development, taking into account the work of the Conference on Disarmament, the views expressed by Member States and the reports of the Secretary-General on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development, with a view to a decision at its fifty-eighth session;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to implement the recommendations contained in his 2000 report on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development and to ensure that sufficient resources are made available for the Secretariat to operate and maintain the Register;

6. *Invites* the Conference on Disarmament to consider continuing its work undertaken in the field of transparency in armaments;

7. *Reiterates its call upon* all Member States to cooperate at the regional and subregional levels, taking fully into account the specific conditions prevailing in the region or subregion, with a view to enhancing and coordinating international efforts aimed at increased openness and transparency in armaments;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on progress made in implementing the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Transparency in armaments".

Resolution R

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/536, para. 73),[120] by a recorded vote of 103 to 41, with 17 abstentions, as follows:

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[116] See resolution 46/36 L.

[117] A/56/257 and Add.1.

[118] A/52/316 and Corr.2.

[119] A/55/281.

[120] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Indonesia, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Panama, Philippines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Thailand, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Nauru, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia

Abstaining: Argentina, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Cyprus, Georgia, India, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Kazakhstan, Mauritius, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Sweden, Ukraine

R

NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/75 E of 15 December 1994 on a step-by-step reduction of the nuclear threat, and its resolutions 50/70 P of 12 December 1995, 51/45 O of 10 December 1996, 52/38 L of 9 December 1997, 53/77 X of 4 December 1998, 54/54 P of 1 December 1999 and 55/33 T of 20 November 2000 on nuclear disarmament,

Reaffirming the commitment of the international community to the goal of the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free world,

Bearing in mind that the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction of 1972[121] and the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction of 1993[84] have already established legal regimes on the complete prohibition of biological and chemical weapons, respectively, and determined to achieve a nuclear weapons convention on the prohibition of the development, testing, production, stockpiling, loan transfer, use and threat of use of nuclear weapons and on their destruction, and to conclude such an international convention at an early date,

Recognizing that there now exist conditions for the establishment of a world free of nuclear weapons,

Bearing in mind paragraph 50 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[53] the first special session devoted to disarmament, calling for the urgent negotiation of agreements for the cessation of the qualitative improvement and development of nuclear-weapon systems, and for a comprehensive and phased programme with agreed time frames, wherever feasible, for the progressive and balanced reduction of nuclear weapons and their means of delivery, leading to their ultimate and complete elimination at the earliest possible time,

Noting the reiteration by the States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[49] of their conviction that the Treaty is a cornerstone of nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament and the reaffirmation by the States parties of the importance of the decision on strengthening the review process for the Treaty,[122] the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament,[122] the decision on the extension of the Treaty[122] and the resolution on the Middle East,[122] adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

Reiterating the highest priority accorded to nuclear disarmament in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly and by the international community,

Recognizing that the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty[103] and any proposed treaty on fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices must constitute disarmament measures, and not only non-proliferation measures,

Welcoming the entry into force of the Treaty on the Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (START I),[123] to which Belarus, Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation, Ukraine and the United States of America are States parties,

Welcoming also the ratification of the Treaty on Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (START II)[124] by the Russian Federation, and looking forward to its early entry into force and its full implementation and to an early commencement of START III negotiations,

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[121] Resolution 2826 (XXVI), annex.

[122] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex.

[123] *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 16: 1991 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.92.IX.1), appendix II.

[124] Ibid., vol. 18: 1993 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.IX.1), appendix II.

Noting with appreciation the unilateral measures by the nuclear-weapon States for nuclear arms limitation, and encouraging them to take further such measures,

Recognizing the complementarity of bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral negotiations on nuclear disarmament, and that bilateral negotiations can never replace multilateral negotiations in this respect,

Noting the support expressed in the Conference on Disarmament and in the General Assembly for the elaboration of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and the multilateral efforts in the Conference on Disarmament to reach agreement on such an international convention at an early date,

Recalling the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*, issued on 8 July 1996,[54] and welcoming the unanimous reaffirmation by all Judges of the Court that there exists an obligation for all States to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control,

Mindful of paragraph 114 and other relevant recommendations in the Final Document of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998,[58] calling upon the Conference on Disarmament to establish, on a priority basis, an ad hoc committee to commence negotiations in 1998 on a phased programme of nuclear disarmament and for the eventual elimination of nuclear weapons with a specified framework of time,

Recalling paragraph 72 of the Final Document of the Thirteenth Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Cartagena, Colombia, on 8 and 9 April 2000,[63]

Bearing in mind the principles and guidelines on the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, adopted by the Disarmament Commission at its substantive session of 1999,[69]

Welcoming the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[55] in which heads of State and Government resolve to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, and to keep all options open for achieving this aim, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers,

Seized of the danger of the use of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, in terrorist acts and the urgent need for concerted international efforts to control and overcome it,

1. *Recognizes* that, in view of recent political developments, the time is now opportune for all the nuclear-weapon States to take effective disarmament measures with a view to the elimination of these weapons;

2. *Also recognizes* that there is a genuine need to diminish the role of nuclear weapons in security policies to minimize the risk that these weapons will ever be used and to facilitate the process of their total elimination;

3. *Urges* the nuclear-weapon States to stop immediately the qualitative improvement, development, production and stockpiling of nuclear warheads and their delivery systems;

4. *Also urges* the nuclear-weapon States, as an interim measure, to de-alert and deactivate immediately their nuclear weapons and to take other concrete measures to reduce further the operational status of their nuclear-weapon systems;

5. *Reiterates its call upon* the nuclear-weapon States to undertake the step-by-step reduction of the nuclear threat and to carry out effective nuclear disarmament measures with a view to the total elimination of these weapons;

6. *Calls upon* the nuclear-weapon States, pending the achievement of the total elimination of nuclear weapons, to agree on an internationally and legally binding instrument on the joint undertaking not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, and calls upon all States to conclude an internationally and legally binding instrument on security assurances of non-use and non-threat of use of nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon States;

7. *Urges* the nuclear-weapon States to commence plurilateral negotiations among themselves at an appropriate stage on further deep reductions of nuclear weapons as an effective measure of nuclear disarmament;

8. *Underlines* the importance of applying the principle of irreversibility to the process of nuclear disarmament, nuclear and other related arms control and reduction measures;

9. *Welcomes* the positive outcome of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States, in the Final Document of the Review Conference, to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, to which all States parties are committed under article VI of the Treaty,[125] and the reaffirmation by the States parties that the total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only absolute guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,[126] and calls for the full and effective implementation of the steps set out in the Final Document;

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[125] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, art. VI, para. 15:6.

[126] Ibid., art. VII, para. 2.

10. *Calls* for the immediate commencement of negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament, on a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices on the basis of the report of the Special Coordinator[82] and the mandate contained therein;

11. *Urges* the Conference on Disarmament to agree on a programme of work which includes the immediate commencement of negotiations on such a treaty with a view to their conclusion within five years;

12. *Calls* for the conclusion of an international legal instrument or instruments on adequate security assurances to non-nuclear-weapon States;

13. *Calls also* for the early entry into force and strict observance of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty;[103]

14. *Expresses its regret* that the Conference on Disarmament was unable to establish an ad hoc committee on nuclear disarmament at its 2001 session, as called for in General Assembly resolution 55/33 T;

15. *Reiterates its call upon* the Conference on Disarmament to establish, on a priority basis, an ad hoc committee to deal with nuclear disarmament early in 2002 and to commence negotiations on a phased programme of nuclear disarmament leading to the eventual elimination of nuclear weapons;

16. *Calls* for the convening of an international conference on nuclear disarmament in all its aspects at an early date to identify and deal with concrete measures of nuclear disarmament;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Nuclear disarmament".

Resolution S

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/536, para. 73),[127] by a recorded vote of 111 to 29, with 21 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Liechtenstein, Micronesia (Federated States of), Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkmenistan, Yugoslavia

S

FOLLOW-UP TO THE ADVISORY OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE ON THE *LEGALITY OF THE THREAT OR USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS*

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/75 K of 15 December 1994, 51/45 M of 10 December 1996, 52/38 O of 9 December 1997, 53/77 W of 4 December 1998, 54/54 Q of 1 December 1999 and 55/33 X of 20 November 2000,

Convinced that the continuing existence of nuclear weapons poses a threat to all humanity and that their use would have catastrophic consequences for all life on Earth, and recognizing that the only defence against a nuclear catastrophe is the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the certainty that they will never be produced again,

Reaffirming the commitment of the international community to the goal of the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the creation of a nuclear-weapon-free world,

Mindful of the solemn obligations of States parties, undertaken in article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[49] particularly to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear-arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament,

Recalling the principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament adopted at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[104]

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[127] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cambodia, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mexico, Mongolia, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, Tonga, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Viet Nam and Zambia.

Welcoming the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, adopted at the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[125]

Recalling the adoption of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty in its resolution 50/245 of 10 September 1996, and expressing its satisfaction at the increasing number of States that have signed and ratified the Treaty,

Recognizing with satisfaction that the Antarctic Treaty[74] and the treaties of Tlatelolco,[70] Rarotonga,[71] Bangkok[72] and Pelindaba[73] are gradually freeing the entire southern hemisphere and adjacent areas covered by those treaties from nuclear weapons,

Noting the efforts by the States possessing the largest inventories of nuclear weapons to reduce their stockpiles of such weapons through bilateral agreements or arrangements and unilateral decisions, and calling for the intensification of such efforts to accelerate the significant reduction of nuclear-weapon arsenals,

Stressing the importance of strengthening all existing nuclear-related disarmament, arms control and reduction measures,

Recognizing the need for a multilaterally negotiated and legally binding instrument to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the threat or use of nuclear weapons,

Reaffirming the central role of the Conference on Disarmament as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, and regretting the lack of progress in disarmament negotiations, particularly nuclear disarmament, in the Conference during its 2001 session,

Emphasizing the need for the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations on a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons with a specified framework of time,

Desiring to achieve the objective of a legally binding prohibition of the development, production, testing, deployment, stockpiling, threat or use of nuclear weapons and their destruction under effective international control,

Recalling the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*, issued on 8 July 1996,[54]

Taking note of the relevant portions of the note by the Secretary-General[128] relating to the implementation of resolution 55/33 X,

1. *Underlines once again* the unanimous conclusion of the International Court of Justice that there exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control;

2. *Calls once again upon* all States immediately to fulfil that obligation by commencing multilateral negotiations in 2002 leading to an early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention prohibiting the development, production, testing, deployment, stockpiling, transfer, threat or use of nuclear weapons and providing for their elimination;

3. *Requests* all States to inform the Secretary-General of the efforts and measures they have taken on the implementation of the present resolution and nuclear disarmament, and requests the Secretary-General to apprise the General Assembly of that information at its fifty-seventh session;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*".

Resolution T

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/536, para. 73)[129]

T

MULTILATERAL COOPERATION IN THE AREA OF DISARMAMENT AND NON-PROLIFERATION AND GLOBAL EFFORTS AGAINST TERRORISM

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling that the United Nations Millennium Declaration[55] stated that the responsibility for managing threats to international peace and security must be shared among the nations of the world,

Recognizing that disarmament and non-proliferation are essential for the maintenance of international peace and security,

Emphasizing that all General Assembly and Security Council resolutions relating to terrorism, in particular General Assembly resolutions 49/60 of 9 December 1994 and 56/1 of 12 September 2001 and Security Council resolutions 1368 (2001) of 12 September 2001 and 1373 (2001) of

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[128] A/56/130 and Add.1.

[129] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

28 September 2001, demonstrate the unity and solidarity of the international community in the face of the common threat of terrorism and its determination to combat it,

Recognizing the close connection between international terrorism and illicit arms-trafficking and the illegal movement of nuclear, chemical, biological and other potentially deadly materials,

Reaffirming the importance of taking all necessary steps to combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

Noting with concern the lack of sufficient progress in multilateral disarmament diplomacy,

Determined to build a common response to global threats in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation,

1. *Reaffirms* multilateralism as a core principle in negotiations in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation with a view to maintaining and strengthening universal norms and enlarging their scope;

2. *Emphasizes* that progress is urgently needed in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation in order to help maintain international peace and security and to contribute to global efforts against terrorism;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States to renew and fulfil their individual and collective commitments to multilateral cooperation as an important means of pursuing and achieving their common objectives in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation.

Resolution U

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/536, para. 73)[130]

U

ASSISTANCE TO STATES FOR CURBING THE ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN SMALL ARMS AND COLLECTING THEM

The General Assembly,

Considering that the proliferation and illicit circulation of and traffic in small arms impede development, constitute a threat to populations and to national and regional security and are a factor contributing to the destabilization of States,

Deeply disturbed by the magnitude of the proliferation, illicit circulation and traffic of small arms in the States of the Sahelo-Saharan subregion,

Noting with satisfaction the conclusions of the United Nations advisory missions dispatched by the Secretary-General to the affected countries of the subregion to study the most appropriate way of halting the illicit circulation of small arms and collecting them,

Welcoming the designation of the Department for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat as a centre for the coordination of all activities of United Nations bodies concerned with small arms,

Thanking the Secretary-General for his report on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[131] and bearing in mind the statement on small arms made by the President of the Security Council on 24 September 1999,[132]

Welcoming the recommendations resulting from the meetings of the States of the subregion held at Banjul, Algiers, Bamako, Yamoussoukro and Niamey to establish close regional cooperation with a view to strengthening security,

Welcoming also the initiative taken by the Economic Community of West African States concerning the declaration of a moratorium on the importation, exportation and manufacture of small arms and light weapons in West Africa,

Recalling the Algiers Declaration adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-fifth ordinary session, held at Algiers from 12 to 14 July 1999,[133]

Emphasizing the need to advance efforts towards wider cooperation and better coordination in the struggle against the accumulation, proliferation and widespread use of small arms through the common understanding reached at the meeting on small arms held at Oslo on 13 and 14 July 1998[134] and the Brussels Call for Action adopted by the International Conference on Sustainable Disarmament for Sustainable Development, held at Brussels on 12 and 13 October 1998,[135]

Bearing in mind the Bamako Declaration on an African Common Position on the Illicit Proliferation, Circulation and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons, adopted at Bamako on 1 December 2000,[136]

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[130] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Austria, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Colombia, Congo, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali (on behalf of States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Economic Community of West African States), Malta, Netherlands, Portugal, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[131] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

[132] S/PRST/1999/28; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1999*.

[133] A/54/424, annex II, decision AHG/Decl. 1 (XXXV).

[134] See CD/1556.

[135] A/53/681, annex.

[136] A/CONF.192/PC/23, annex.

Taking note of the millennium report of the Secretary-General,[137]

Welcoming the Programme of Action of the first United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in New York from 9 to 20 July 2001,[112]

Recognizing the important role that the organizations of civil society play in detection, prevention and arousing public awareness in efforts to curb the illicit traffic in small arms,

1. *Notes with satisfaction* the Declaration of the Ministerial Conference on Security, Stability, Development and Cooperation in Africa, held in Abuja on 8 and 9 May 2000,[138] encourages the Secretary-General to pursue his action in the context of the implementation of resolution 49/75 G of 15 December 1994 and of the recommendations of the United Nations advisory missions, aimed at curbing the illicit circulation of small arms and collecting such arms in the affected States that so request, with the support of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa and in close cooperation with the Organization of African Unity;

2. *Encourages* the establishment in the countries of the Sahelo-Saharan subregion of national commissions to combat the proliferation of small arms, and invites the international community to lend its support wherever possible to ensure the smooth functioning of the said commissions;

3. *Welcomes* the Declaration of a Moratorium on the Importation, Exportation and Manufacture of Small Arms and Light Weapons in West Africa, adopted by the heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of West African States in Abuja on 31 October 1998,[139] and encourages the international community to support the implementation of the said moratorium;

4. *Encourages* the involvement of civil society organizations and associations in the efforts of the national committees to combat the illicit traffic in small arms and their participation in the implementation of the moratorium on the importation, exportation and manufacture of small arms and light weapons in West Africa;

5. *Takes note* of the conclusions of the meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Economic Community of West African States, held in Bamako on 24 and 25 March 1999, with respect to the modalities for implementing the Programme for Coordination and Assistance for Security and Development, and welcomes the adoption by the meeting of a plan of action;

6. *Encourages* cooperation between State organs, international organizations and civil society in combating the illicit traffic in small arms and supporting operations to collect the said arms in the subregions;

7. *Invites* the Secretary-General and those States and organizations that are in a position to do so to provide assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and collecting them;

8. *Calls upon* the international community to provide technical and financial support to strengthen the capacity of civil society organizations to take action to combat the illicit trade in small arms;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to consider the matter and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and collecting them".

Resolution V

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/536, para. 73)[140]

V

THE ILLICIT TRADE IN SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS IN ALL ITS ASPECTS

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/70 B of 12 December 1995, 52/38 J of 9 December 1997, 53/77 E and 53/77 T of 4 December 1998, 54/54 R of 1 December 1999, 54/54 V of 15 December 1999 and 55/33 Q of 20 November 2000,

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[137] A/54/2000.

[138] A/55/286, annex II, decision AHG/Decl. 4 (XXXVI).

[139] A/53/763-S/1998/1194, annex.

[140] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zambia.

Recalling also its decision 55/415 of 20 November 2000 to convene the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects in New York from 9 to 20 July 2001,

Welcoming the adoption by consensus of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects by the Conference, held in New York from 9 to 20 July 2001,[112]

1. *Decides* to convene a conference, no later than 2006, to review progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, the date and venue to be decided by the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

2. *Also decides* to convene a meeting of States on a biennial basis, commencing in 2003, to consider the national, regional and global implementation of the Programme of Action;

3. *Calls upon* all States to implement the Programme of Action;

4. *Encourages* the United Nations and other appropriate international and regional organizations to undertake initiatives to promote the implementation of the Programme of Action;

5. *Encourages* non-governmental organizations and civil society to engage, as appropriate, in all aspects of international, regional, subregional and national efforts to implement the Programme of Action;

6. *Encourages* all States to promote and strengthen regional and subregional initiatives to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects;

7. *Continues to encourage* States to take appropriate national measures to destroy surplus, confiscated or collected small arms and light weapons, subject to any legal constraint associated with the preparation of criminal prosecutions, unless another form of disposition or use has been officially authorized and provided that such weapons have been duly marked and registered, and to submit, on a voluntary basis, information to the Secretary-General on types and quantities destroyed as well as the methods of their destruction or disposition;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that resources and expertise are made available to the Secretariat to promote the implementation of the Programme of Action;

9. *Encourages* all initiatives to mobilize resources and expertise to promote the implementation of the Programme of Action and to provide assistance to States in their implementation of the Programme of Action;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to undertake a United Nations study, commencing during the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, within available financial resources and with any other assistance provided by States in a position to do so, and with the assistance of governmental experts appointed by him on the basis of equitable geographical representation, while seeking the views of States, to examine the feasibility of developing an international instrument to enable States to identify and trace, in a timely and reliable manner, illicit small arms and light weapons and to submit the study to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

11. *Decides* to consider at its fifty-seventh session further steps to enhance international cooperation in preventing, combating and eradicating illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within existing resources, through the Department for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat, to collate and circulate data and information provided by States on a voluntary basis, including national reports, on the implementation by those States of the Programme of Action;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session an item entitled "The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects".

RESOLUTIONS 56/25 A to F

56/25. Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly

Resolution A

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/537, para. 21)[141]

A

REGIONAL CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES: ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON SECURITY QUESTIONS IN CENTRAL AFRICA

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the purposes and principles of the United Nations and its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

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[141] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Sao Tome and Principe and Zambia.

Recalling its resolutions 43/78 H and 43/85 of 7 December 1988, 44/21 of 15 November 1989, 45/58 M of 4 December 1990, 46/37 B of 6 December 1991, 47/53 F of 15 December 1992, 48/76 A of 16 December 1993, 49/76 C of 15 December 1994, 50/71 B of 12 December 1995, 51/46 C of 10 December 1996, 52/39 B of 9 December 1997, 53/78 A of 4 December 1998, 54/55 A of 1 December 1999 and 55/34 B of 20 November 2000,

Considering the importance and effectiveness of confidence-building measures taken at the initiative and with the participation of all States concerned and taking into account the specific characteristics of each region, since such measures can contribute to regional stability and to international peace and security,

Convinced that the resources released by disarmament, including regional disarmament, can be devoted to economic and social development and to the protection of the environment for the benefit of all peoples, in particular those of the developing countries,

Recalling the guidelines for general and complete disarmament adopted at its tenth special session, the first special session devoted to disarmament,

Convinced that development can be achieved only in a climate of peace, security and mutual confidence both within and among States,

Bearing in mind the establishment by the Secretary-General on 28 May 1992 of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, the purpose of which is to encourage arms limitation, disarmament, non-proliferation and development in the subregion,

Recalling the Brazzaville Declaration on Cooperation for Peace and Security in Central Africa,[142] the Bata Declaration for the Promotion of Lasting Democracy, Peace and Development in Central Africa,[143] and the Yaoundé Declaration on Peace, Security and Stability in Central Africa,[144]

Bearing in mind resolutions 1196 (1998) and 1197 (1998), adopted by the Security Council on 16 and 18 September 1998 respectively, following its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[145]

Emphasizing the need to strengthen the capacity for conflict prevention and peacekeeping in Africa,

Recalling the decision of the fourth ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee in favour of establishing, under the auspices of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, a subregional centre for human rights and democracy in Central Africa at Yaoundé,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on regional confidence-building measures, which deals with the activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa in the period since the adoption by the General Assembly of resolution 55/34 B;[146]

2. *Reaffirms its support* for efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at regional and subregional levels in order to ease tensions and conflicts in Central Africa and to further peace, stability and sustainable development in the subregion;

3. *Also reaffirms its support* for the programme of work of the Standing Advisory Committee adopted at the organizational meeting of the Committee, held at Yaoundé from 27 to 31 July 1992;

4. *Notes with satisfaction* the progress made by the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee in implementing the programme of activities for the period 2000–2001, in particular by:

(*a*) Holding the Subregional Conference on the Question of Refugees and Displaced Persons in Central Africa at Bujumbura from 14 to 16 August 2000;

(*b*) Holding the fourteenth ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee at Bujumbura on 17 and 18 August 2000;

(*c*) Holding the fifteenth ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee at Bujumbura from 16 to 20 April 2001;

(*d*) Holding the meeting of experts on the texts governing the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa at Libreville from 2 to 5 July 2001;

(*e*) Holding the sixteenth ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee at Kinshasa from 13 to 17 August 2001;

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of providing the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with the essential support they need to carry out the full programme of activities which they adopted at their ministerial meetings;

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[142] A/50/474, annex I.

[143] A/53/258-S/1998/763, annex II, appendix I.

[144] A/53/868-S/1999/303, annex II.

[145] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

[146] A/56/285.

6. *Welcomes* the creation of a mechanism for the promotion, maintenance and consolidation of peace and security in Central Africa, to be known as the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa, by the Conference of Heads of State and Government of the member countries of the Economic Community of Central African States, held at Yaoundé on 25 February 1999, and requests the Secretary-General to give his full support to the effective realization of that important mechanism;

7. *Emphasizes* the need to make the early-warning mechanism in Central Africa operational so that it will serve, on the one hand, as an instrument for analysing and monitoring political situations in the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with a view to preventing the outbreak of future armed conflicts and, on the other hand, as a technical body through which the member States will carry out the programme of work of the Committee, adopted at its organizational meeting held at Yaoundé in 1992, and requests the Secretary-General to provide it with the assistance necessary for it to function properly;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General, pursuant to Security Council resolution 1197 (1998), to provide the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with the necessary support for the implementation and smooth functioning of the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa and the early-warning mechanism;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to support the establishment of a network of parliamentarians with a view to the creation of a subregional parliament in Central Africa;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to continue to provide increased assistance to the countries of Central Africa for coping with the problems of refugees and displaced persons in their territories;

11. *Welcomes with satisfaction* the decision taken at the fourteenth ministerial meeting to organize a subregional conference on the protection of women and children in armed conflict, and requests the Secretary-General to lend all the necessary support for the holding of the conference;

12. *Thanks* the Secretary-General for having established the Trust Fund for the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa;

13. *Appeals* to Member States and to governmental and non-governmental organizations to make additional voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for the implementation of the programme of work of the Standing Advisory Committee;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with assistance to ensure that they are able to carry on their efforts;

15. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa".

Resolution B

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/537, para. 21),[147] by a recorded vote of 104 to 46, with 11 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia

Abstaining: Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, China, Georgia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Turkmenistan, Ukraine

B

CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

The General Assembly,

Convinced that the use of nuclear weapons poses the most serious threat to the survival of mankind,

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[147] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Fiji, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritius, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Swaziland, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Bearing in mind the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 8 July 1996 on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons,*[148]

Convinced that a multilateral, universal and binding agreement prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons would contribute to the elimination of the nuclear threat and to the climate for negotiations leading to the ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons, thereby strengthening international peace and security,

Conscious that some steps taken by the Russian Federation and the United States of America towards a reduction of their nuclear weapons and the improvement in the international climate can contribute towards the goal of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons,

Recalling that, in paragraph 58 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[149] it is stated that all States should actively participate in efforts to bring about conditions in international relations among States in which a code of peaceful conduct of nations in international affairs could be agreed upon and that would preclude the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Reaffirming that any use of nuclear weapons would be a violation of the Charter of the United Nations and a crime against humanity, as declared in its resolutions 1653 (XVI) of 24 November 1961, 33/71 B of 14 December 1978, 34/83 G of 11 December 1979, 35/152 D of 12 December 1980 and 36/92 I of 9 December 1981,

Determined to achieve an international convention prohibiting the development, production, stockpiling and use of nuclear weapons, leading to their ultimate destruction,

Stressing that an international convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons would be an important step in a phased programme towards the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, with a specified framework of time,

Noting with regret that the Conference on Disarmament, during its 2001 session, was unable to undertake negotiations on this subject as called for in General Assembly resolution 55/34 G of 20 November 2000,

1. *Reiterates its request* to the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations in order to reach agreement on an international convention prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances;

2. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to report to the General Assembly on the results of those negotiations.

Resolution C

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/537, para. 21)[150]

C

UNITED NATIONS REGIONAL CENTRES FOR PEACE AND DISARMAMENT

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/34 F of 20 November 2000 regarding the maintenance and revitalization of the three United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament,

Recalling also the reports of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa,[151] the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific[152] and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean,[153]

Reaffirming its decision, taken in 1982 at its twelfth special session, to establish the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme, the purpose of which is to inform, educate and generate public understanding and support for the objectives of the United Nations in the field of arms control and disarmament,[154]

Bearing in mind its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 J of 3 December 1986, 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 44/117 F of 15 December 1989 on the regional centres for peace and disarmament in Nepal, Peru and Togo,

Recognizing that the changes that have taken place in the world have created new opportunities as well as posed new challenges for the pursuit of disarmament and, in this regard, bearing in mind that the regional centres for peace and disarmament can contribute substantially to understanding and cooperation among States in each particular region in the areas of peace, disarmament and development,

Noting that in paragraph 146 of the Final Document of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Non-Aligned Countries, held at Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998, the heads of State or Government welcomed the decision adopted by the General

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[148] A/51/218, annex; see also *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 1996*, p. 226.

[149] Resolution S-10/2.

[150] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by South Africa (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

[151] A/56/137.

[152] A/56/266.

[153] A/56/154.

[154] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Plenary Meetings*, 1st meeting, paras. 110 and 111.

Assembly on maintaining and revitalizing the three regional centres for peace and disarmament in Nepal, Peru and Togo,[155]

1. *Reiterates* the importance of the United Nations activities at the regional level to increase the stability and security of its Member States, which could be promoted in a substantive manner by the maintenance and revitalization of the three regional centres for peace and disarmament;

2. *Reaffirms* that, in order to achieve positive results, it is useful for the three regional centres to carry out dissemination and educational programmes that promote regional peace and security aimed at changing basic attitudes with respect to peace and security and disarmament so as to support the achievement of the principles and purposes of the United Nations;

3. *Appeals* to Member States in each region and those that are able to do so, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions to the regional centres in their respective regions to strengthen their programmes of activities and implementation;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all necessary support, within existing resources, to the regional centres in carrying out their programmes of activities;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament".

Resolution D

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/537, para. 21)[156]

D

UNITED NATIONS REGIONAL CENTRE FOR PEACE AND DISARMAMENT IN AFRICA

The General Assembly,

Mindful of the provisions of Article 11, paragraph 1, of the Charter of the United Nations stipulating that a function of the General Assembly is to consider the general principles of cooperation in the maintenance of international peace and security, including the principles governing disarmament and arms limitation,

Recalling its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 D of 3 December 1986, 42/39 J of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 D of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, and its resolutions 46/36 F of 6 December 1991 and 47/52 G of 9 December 1992 on regional disarmament, including confidence-building measures,

Recalling also its resolutions 48/76 E of 16 December 1993, 49/76 D of 15 December 1994, 50/71 C of 12 December 1995, 51/46 E of 10 December 1996, 52/220 of 22 December 1997, 53/78 C of 4 December 1998, 54/55 B of 1 December 1999 and 55/34 D of 20 November 2000,

Aware of the widespread support for the revitalization of the Regional Centre and the important role that the Centre can play in the present context in promoting confidence-building and arms-limitation measures at the regional level, thereby promoting progress in the area of sustainable development,

Taking into account the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[145]

Bearing in mind the efforts undertaken in the framework of the revitalization of the activities of the Regional Centre for the mobilization of the resources necessary for its operational costs,

Taking into account the need to establish close cooperation between the Regional Centre and the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution of the Organization of African Unity, in conformity with the relevant decision adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-fifth ordinary session, held at Algiers from 12 to 14 July 1999,[157]

Welcoming the adoption by the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in New York from 9 to 20 July 2001, of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[158] and emphasizing the need for the appropriate implementation of the Programme of Action by all States,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[151] and commends the activities which the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa is continuing to carry out, in particular in support of the efforts made by the African States in the areas of peace and security;

2. *Reaffirms* its strong support for the revitalization of the Regional Centre, and emphasizes the need to provide it with

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[155] A/53/667-S/1998/1071, annex I.

[156] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by the Sudan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States).

[157] A/54/424, annex II, decision AHG/Dec. 138 (XXXV).

[158] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), para. 24.

the necessary resources to enable it to strengthen its activities and carry out its programmes;

3. *Appeals once again* to all States, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and the foundations, to make voluntary contributions in order to strengthen the programmes and activities of the Regional Centre and facilitate their implementation;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the necessary support to the Regional Centre for better achievements and results;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to facilitate the establishment of close cooperation between the Regional Centre and the Organization of African Unity, in particular in the area of peace, security and development, and to continue to assist the Director of the Regional Centre in his efforts to stabilize the financial situation of the Centre and revitalize its activities;

6. *Appeals in particular* to the Regional Centre, in cooperation with the Organization of African Unity, regional and subregional organizations and the African States, to take steps to promote the consistent implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects;[158]

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa".

Resolution E

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/537, para. 21)[159]

E

UNITED NATIONS REGIONAL CENTRE FOR PEACE, DISARMAMENT AND DEVELOPMENT IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 41/60 J of 3 December 1986, 42/39 K of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 H of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, with headquarters in Lima,

Recalling also its resolutions 46/37 F of 9 December 1991, 48/76 E of 16 December 1993, 49/76 D of 15 December 1994, 50/71 C of 12 December 1995, 52/220 of 22 December 1997, 53/78 F of 4 December 1998, 54/55 F of 1 December 1999 and 55/34 E of 20 November 2000,

Underlining the revitalization of the Regional Centre, the efforts made by the Government of Peru to that end and the appointment of the Director of the Centre by the Secretary-General,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General,[153] which concludes that the Regional Centre has launched projects aimed at furthering the understanding of the relationship between security and development, enhanced the role of the United Nations as a regional catalyst for activities on peace and disarmament and acted as a politically neutral platform for discussions on security and development issues,

Noting the agreement between the Regional Centre and the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission[160] to strengthen their cooperation with respect to their mutual interest in reducing firearms trafficking and related activities among States under their respective mandates, as well as to strengthen the capacity of those countries to deal with those problems,

Noting also that security and disarmament issues have always been recognized as significant topics in Latin America and the Caribbean, the first inhabited region in the world to be declared a nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Bearing in mind the important role that the Regional Centre can play in promoting confidence-building measures, arms control and limitation, disarmament and development at the regional level,

Also bearing in mind the importance of information, research, education and training for peace, disarmament and development in order to achieve understanding and cooperation among States,

Recognizing the need to provide the three United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament with sufficient financial resources for the planning and implementation of their programmes of activities,

1. *Reiterates* its strong support for the role of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean in the promotion of United Nations activities at the regional level to

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[159] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Haiti (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States).

[160] Memorandum of understanding dated 26 January 2001 between the United Nations and the Organization of American States on cooperation in respect of measures to reduce illegal trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition and other related matters.

strengthen peace, stability, security and development among its member States;

2. *Expresses its satisfaction* and congratulates the Regional Centre for the vast range of activities carried out last year;

3. *Encourages* the Regional Centre to continue to provide assistance for the States of the region in all issues related to disarmament, including the effective implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects[158] and, in this connection, welcomes the holding of a regional seminar in Santiago, from 19 to 21 November 2001;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* for the political support and financial contributions to the Regional Centre, which are essential for its continued operation;

5. *Invites* all States of the region to take part in the activities of the Regional Centre, proposing items for inclusion in its agenda, making greater and better use of the Centre's potential to meet the current challenges facing the international community and with a view to fulfilling the aims of the Charter of the United Nations in the fields of peace, disarmament and development;

6. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the relationship between disarmament and development,[161] and supports the role that the Regional Centre plays to promote those issues in the region in pursuit of its mandate to promote economic and social development related to peace and disarmament;

7. *Appeals* to Member States, in particular the States of the Latin American and Caribbean region, and to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and to foundations, to make voluntary contributions to strengthen the Regional Centre, its programme of activities and the implementation thereof;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Regional Centre with all necessary support, within existing resources, so that it may carry out its programme of activities in accordance with its mandate;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean".

Resolution F

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/537, para. 21)[162]

F

UNITED NATIONS REGIONAL CENTRE FOR PEACE AND DISARMAMENT IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 44/117 F of 15 December 1989, by which it established the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and renamed it the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific, with headquarters in Kathmandu and with the mandate of providing, on request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities mutually agreed upon by the Member States of the Asia-Pacific region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament, through appropriate utilization of available resources,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General,[152] in which he expresses his belief that the mandate of the Regional Centre remains valid and that the Centre could be a useful instrument for fostering a climate of cooperation in the post-cold-war era,

Noting that trends in the post-cold-war era have emphasized the function of the Regional Centre in assisting Member States as they deal with new security concerns and disarmament issues emerging in the region,

Commending the useful activities carried out by the Regional Centre in encouraging regional and subregional dialogue for the enhancement of openness, transparency and confidence-building, as well as the promotion of disarmament and security through the organization of regional meetings, which has come to be widely known within the Asia-Pacific region as the "Kathmandu process",

Expressing its appreciation to the Regional Centre for its organization of the thirteenth regional disarmament meeting in Asia and the Pacific, held at Kathmandu from 9 to 11 March 2001, the United Nations regional disarmament meeting on the theme "A Pacific Way to Disarmament", held at Wellington from 27 to 30 March 2001, and the meeting of the United

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[161] A/56/183.

[162] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Tonga, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu and Viet Nam.

Nations Conference on Disarmament Issues on the theme "The Asia-Pacific region: evolution of the scope of security and disarmament in the twenty-first century", held at Kanazawa, Japan, from 28 to 31 August 2001,

Welcoming the idea of the possible creation of an educational and training programme for peace and disarmament in Asia and the Pacific for young people with different backgrounds, to be financed from voluntary contributions,

Noting the important role of the Regional Centre in assisting region-specific initiatives of Member States, including its assistance in the work related to the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia, as well as to Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status, including the organization of a United Nations-sponsored non-governmental expert group meeting on the theme "Ways and means of strengthening Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status", held at Sapporo, Japan, on 5 and 6 September 2001,

Appreciating highly the important role that Nepal has played as the host nation of the headquarters of the Regional Centre,

1. *Reaffirms* its strong support for the forthcoming operation and further strengthening of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific;

2. *Underlines* the importance of the Kathmandu process as a powerful vehicle for the development of the practice of region-wide security and disarmament dialogue;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the continuing political support and voluntary financial contributions to the Regional Centre, which are essential for its continued operation;

4. *Appeals* to Member States, in particular those within the Asia-Pacific region, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions, the only resources of the Regional Centre, to strengthen the programme of activities of the Centre and the implementation thereof;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, taking note of paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 49/76 D of 15 December 1994, to provide the Regional Centre with the necessary support, within existing resources, in carrying out its programme of activities;

6. *Urges* the Secretary-General to ensure the physical operation of the Regional Centre from Kathmandu within six months of the date of signature of the host country agreement and to enable the Centre to function effectively;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific".

RESOLUTIONS 56/26 A and B

56/26. Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session

Resolution A

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/538, para. 11)[163]

A

REPORT OF THE DISARMAMENT COMMISSION

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Disarmament Commission,[164]

Recalling its resolutions 47/54 A of 9 December 1992, 47/54 G of 8 April 1993, 48/77 A of 16 December 1993, 49/77 A of 15 December 1994, 50/72 D of 12 December 1995, 51/47 B of 10 December 1996, 52/40 B of 9 December 1997, 53/79 A of 4 December 1998, 54/56 A of 1 December 1999 and 55/35 C of 20 November 2000,

Considering the role that the Disarmament Commission has been called upon to play and the contribution that it should make in examining and submitting recommendations on various problems in the field of disarmament and in the promotion of the implementation of the relevant decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session,

Bearing in mind its decision 52/492 of 8 September 1998,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Disarmament Commission;[164]

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of further enhancing the dialogue and cooperation among the First Committee, the Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament;

3. *Also reaffirms* the role of the Disarmament Commission as the specialized, deliberative body within the United Nations multilateral disarmament machinery that allows for in-depth deliberations on specific disarmament issues, leading to the submission of concrete recommendations on those issues;

4. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to continue its work in accordance with its mandate, as set forth in paragraph 118 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General

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[163] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Egypt, Finland, Ghana, Jamaica, Myanmar, Nepal, South Africa, Sweden and Ukraine.

[164] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/56/42).

Assembly,[165] and with paragraph 3 of Assembly resolution 37/78 H of 9 December 1982, and to that end to make every effort to achieve specific recommendations on the items of its agenda, taking into account the adopted "Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission";[166]

5. *Notes* that the Disarmament Commission, at its 2001 organizational session, adopted the following items for consideration at its 2002 substantive session:

(*a*) Ways and means to achieve nuclear disarmament;

(*b*) Practical confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms;

6. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to meet for a period not exceeding three weeks during 2002 and to submit a substantive report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Disarmament Commission the annual report of the Conference on Disarmament,[167] together with all the official records of the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly relating to disarmament matters, and to render all assistance that the Commission may require for implementing the present resolution;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure full provision to the Disarmament Commission and its subsidiary bodies of interpretation and translation facilities in the official languages and to assign, as a matter of priority, all the necessary resources and services, including verbatim records, to that end;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission".

Resolution B

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/538, para. 11)[168]

B

REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Conference on Disarmament,[167]

Convinced that the Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community, has the primary role in substantive negotiations on priority questions of disarmament,

Recognizing the need to conduct multilateral negotiations with the aim of reaching agreement on concrete issues for negotiation,

Recalling, in this respect, that the Conference has a number of urgent and important issues for negotiation,

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Conference on Disarmament as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community;

2. *Urges* the Conference to fulfil that role in the light of the evolving international situation, with a view to making early substantive progress on priority items on its agenda;

3. *Welcomes* the strong collective interest of the Conference in commencing substantive work as soon as possible during its 2002 session;

4. *Also welcomes* the decision of the Conference to request its President to conduct appropriate consultations with its incoming President during the inter-sessional period to try to achieve this goal, as expressed in paragraph 40 of its report;[167]

5. *Further welcomes* the recommendation of the Conference, as expressed in paragraph 41 of its report, to reappoint the Special Coordinator on Review of the Agenda of the Conference on Disarmament, the Special Coordinator on Expansion of Membership of the Conference on Disarmament and the Special Coordinator on Improved and Effective Functioning of the Conference on Disarmament as early as possible during its 2002 session;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure the provision to the Conference of adequate administrative, substantive and conference support services;

7. *Requests* the Conference to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament".

RESOLUTION 56/27

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/539, para. 8),[169] by a recorded vote of 153 to 3, with 6 abstentions, as follows:

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[165] Resolution S-10/2.

[166] A/CN.10/137.

[167] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/56/27).

[168] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Ecuador.

[169] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the League of Arab States).

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), United States of America

Abstaining: Australia, Canada, Ethiopia, India, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago

56/27. The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind its relevant resolutions,

Taking note of the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the latest of which is resolution GC(45)/RES/18, adopted on 21 September 2001,[170]

Cognizant that the proliferation of nuclear weapons in the region of the Middle East would pose a serious threat to international peace and security,

Mindful of the immediate need for placing all nuclear facilities in the region of the Middle East under full-scope safeguards of the International Atomic Energy Agency,

Recalling the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons on 11 May 1995,[171] in which the Conference urged universal adherence to the Treaty as an urgent priority and called upon all States not yet parties to the Treaty to accede to it at the earliest date, particularly those States that operate unsafeguarded nuclear facilities,

Recognizing with satisfaction that, in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[172] the Conference undertook to make determined efforts towards the achievement of the goal of universality of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[173] and called upon those remaining States not parties to the Treaty to accede to it, thereby accepting an international legally binding commitment not to acquire nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices and to accept International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards on all their nuclear activities, and underlined the necessity of universal adherence to the Treaty and of strict compliance by all parties with their obligations under the Treaty,

Recalling the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons on 11 May 1995,[174] in which the Conference noted with concern the continued existence in the Middle East of unsafeguarded nuclear facilities, reaffirmed the importance of the early realization of universal adherence to the Treaty and called upon all States in the Middle East that had not yet done so, without exception, to accede to the Treaty as soon as possible and to place all their nuclear facilities under full-scope International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards,

Noting that Israel remains the only State in the Middle East that has not yet become party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

Concerned about the threats posed by the proliferation of nuclear weapons to the security and stability of the Middle East region,

Stressing the importance of taking confidence-building measures, in particular the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East, in order to enhance peace and security in the region and to consolidate the global non-proliferation regime,

Emphasizing the need for all parties directly concerned to consider seriously taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and, as a means of promoting this objective, inviting the countries concerned to adhere to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and, pending the establishment of the zone, to agree to place all their nuclear activities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards,

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[170] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Forty-fifth Regular Session, 17–21 September 2001* (GC(45)/RES/DEC(2001)).

[171] *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex, decision 2.

[172] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I–IV)).

[173] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[174] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex.

Noting that one hundred and sixty-one States have signed the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty,[175] including a number of States in the region,

1. *Welcomes* the conclusions on the Middle East of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;[176]

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of Israel's accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[173] and placement of all its nuclear facilities under comprehensive International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards, in realizing the goal of universal adherence to the Treaty in the Middle East;

3. *Calls upon* that State to accede to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons without further delay and not to develop, produce, test or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons, and to renounce possession of nuclear weapons, and to place all its unsafeguarded nuclear facilities under full-scope International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards as an important confidence-building measure among all States of the region and as a step towards enhancing peace and security;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East".

RESOLUTION 56/28

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/540, para. 8)[177]

56/28. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/37 of 20 November 2000 and previous resolutions referring to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects,[178]

Recalling with satisfaction the adoption, on 10 October 1980, of the Convention, together with the Protocol on Non-Detectable Fragments (Protocol I),[178] the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II)[178] and the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Incendiary Weapons (Protocol III),[178] which entered into force on 2 December 1983,

Also recalling with satisfaction the adoption by the Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, on 13 October 1995 of the Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons (Protocol IV),[179] and on 3 May 1996 of the amended Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II),[180] which entered into force on 30 July 1998 and 3 December 1998, respectively,

Welcoming the additional ratifications and acceptances of or accessions to the Convention, as well as the ratifications and acceptances of or accessions to amended Protocol II and Protocol IV,

Recalling the role played by the International Committee of the Red Cross in the elaboration of the Convention and the Protocols thereto,

Recalling also that the States parties at the Review Conference declared their commitment to keeping the provisions of Protocol II under review in order to ensure that the concerns regarding the weapons it covers are addressed, and that they would encourage the efforts of the United Nations and other organizations to address all problems of landmines,

Commending the efforts of the Secretary-General and the President of the First Annual Conference of States Parties to Amended Protocol II towards the promotion of the goal of universality of amended Protocol II,

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[175] See resolution 50/245.

[176] See *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, art. VII, para. 16.

[177] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Yugoslavia.

[178] See *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 5: 1980 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.IX.4), appendix VII.

[179] CCW/CONF.I/16 (Part I), annex A.

[180] Ibid., annex B.

Noting that, in conformity with article 8 of the Convention, conferences may be convened to examine amendments to the Convention or to any of the Protocols thereto, to examine additional protocols concerning other categories of conventional weapons not covered by existing Protocols or to review the scope and application of the Convention and the Protocols thereto and to examine any proposed amendments or additional protocols,

Noting also that, in accordance with article 13 of amended Protocol II, a conference of States parties to that Protocol shall be held annually for the purpose of consultations and cooperation on all issues in relation to the Protocol,

Noting further that the rules of procedure of the First Annual Conference of States Parties to Amended Protocol II provide for the invitation of States not parties to the Protocol, the International Committee of the Red Cross and interested non-governmental organizations to take part in the Conference,

Welcoming the particular efforts of the International Committee of the Red Cross in raising awareness of the humanitarian consequences of explosive remnants of war,

Welcoming also the results of the Second Annual Conference of States Parties to Amended Protocol II, held at Geneva from 11 to 13 December 2000,[181]

Recalling the decision of States parties to the Convention to convene the next review conference from 11 to 21 December 2001, preceded by three sessions of the preparatory committee for the review conference, on 14 December 2000, from 2 to 6 April 2001 and from 24 to 28 September 2001, respectively,

Welcoming the convening, in the context of the preparatory process, of the informal open-ended consultations of the States parties to the Convention and other interested States at Geneva from 27 to 31 August 2001, which provided for structured discussions, building on work by the respective Friends of Chair on several issues pertaining to the Second Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention and the Preparatory Committee for the Second Review Conference,

1. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to take all measures to become parties, as soon as possible, to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects[178] and the Protocols thereto, in particular the amended Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II),[180] with a view to achieving the widest possible adherence to this instrument at an early date, and calls upon successor States to take appropriate measures so that ultimately adherence to these instruments will be universal;

2. *Calls upon* all States parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to express their consent to be bound by the Protocols to the Convention;

3. *Welcomes* the convening, on 10 December 2001, of the Third Annual Conference of States Parties to Amended Protocol II, in accordance with article 13 thereof, and calls upon all States parties to amended Protocol II to address at that meeting, inter alia, the question of holding the fourth annual conference in 2002;

4. *Welcomes also* the proposal contained in the Final Declaration of the Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, adopted by consensus on 3 May 1996,[182] that the next review conference consider the question of eventual further measures in relation to other conventional weapons which may be deemed to cause unnecessary suffering or to have indiscriminate effects;

5. *Notes,* therefore, the proposals put forward by States parties and the International Committee of the Red Cross for consideration by the 2001 Review Conference, concerning, inter alia, the following issues:

(*a*) Compliance procedures and mechanisms;

(*b*) Explosive remnants of war;

(*c*) Extension of the scope of application of the Convention and the Protocols thereto to non-international armed conflicts;

(*d*) Landmines other than anti-personnel mines;

(*e*) Small-calibre ammunitions;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to render the necessary assistance and to provide such services, including summary records, as may be required for the Second Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention as well as for any possible continuation of work after the Conference, should the States parties deem it appropriate;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in his capacity as depositary of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, to continue to inform the General Assembly periodically of ratifications and acceptances of and accessions to the Convention and the Protocols thereto;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects".

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[181] See CCW/AP.II/CONF.2/1.

[182] CCW/CONF.I/16 (Part I), annex C.

RESOLUTION 56/29

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/541, para. 7)[183]

56/29. Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject, including resolution 55/38 of 20 November 2000,

Reaffirming the primary role of the Mediterranean countries in strengthening and promoting peace, security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region,

Bearing in mind all the previous declarations and commitments, as well as all the initiatives taken by the riparian countries at the recent summits, ministerial meetings and various forums concerning the question of the Mediterranean region,

Recognizing the indivisible character of security in the Mediterranean and that the enhancement of cooperation among Mediterranean countries with a view to promoting the economic and social development of all peoples of the region will contribute significantly to stability, peace and security in the region,

Recognizing also the efforts made so far and the determination of the Mediterranean countries to intensify the process of dialogue and consultations with a view to resolving the problems existing in the Mediterranean region and to eliminating the causes of tension and the consequent threat to peace and security, and their growing awareness of the need for further joint efforts to strengthen economic, social, cultural and environmental cooperation in the region,

Recognizing further that prospects for closer Euro-Mediterranean cooperation in all spheres can be enhanced by positive developments worldwide, in particular in Europe, in the Maghreb and in the Middle East,

Reaffirming the responsibility of all States to contribute to the stability and prosperity of the Mediterranean region and their commitment to respecting the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the provisions of the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[184]

Noting the peace negotiations in the Middle East, which should be of a comprehensive nature and represent an appropriate framework for the peaceful settlement of contentious issues in the region,

Expressing its concern at the persistent tension and continuing military activities in parts of the Mediterranean that hinder efforts to strengthen security and cooperation in the region,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[185]

1. *Reaffirms* that security in the Mediterranean is closely linked to European security as well as to international peace and security;

2. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the continuing efforts by Mediterranean countries to contribute actively to the elimination of all causes of tension in the region and to the promotion of just and lasting solutions to the persistent problems of the region through peaceful means, thus ensuring the withdrawal of foreign forces of occupation and respecting the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all countries of the Mediterranean and the right of peoples to self-determination, and therefore calls for full adherence to the principles of non-interference, non-intervention, non-use of force or threat of use of force and the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, in accordance with the Charter and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

3. *Commends* the Mediterranean countries for their efforts in meeting common challenges through coordinated overall responses, based on a spirit of multilateral partnership, towards the general objective of turning the Mediterranean basin into an area of dialogue, exchanges and cooperation, guaranteeing peace, stability and prosperity, and encourages them to strengthen such efforts through, inter alia, a lasting multilateral and action-oriented cooperative dialogue among States of the region;

4. *Recognizes* that the elimination of the economic and social disparities in levels of development and other obstacles, as well as respect and greater understanding among cultures in the Mediterranean area will contribute to enhancing peace, security and cooperation among Mediterranean countries through the existing forums;

5. *Calls upon* all States of the Mediterranean region that have not yet done so to adhere to all the multilaterally negotiated legal instruments related to the field of disarmament

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[183] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Malta, Mauritania, Monaco, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Yugoslavia.

[184] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[185] A/56/153.

and non-proliferation, thus creating the necessary conditions for strengthening peace and cooperation in the region;

6. *Encourages* all States of the region to favour the necessary conditions for strengthening the confidence-building measures among them by promoting genuine openness and transparency on all military matters, by participating, inter alia, in the United Nations system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures and by providing accurate data and information to the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms;[186]

7. *Encourages* the Mediterranean countries to strengthen further their cooperation in combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, taking into account the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and in combating international crime and illicit arms transfers and illicit drug production, consumption and trafficking, which pose a serious threat to peace, security and stability in the region and therefore to the improvement of the current political, economic and social situation and which jeopardize friendly relations among States, hinder the development of international cooperation and result in the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and the democratic basis of pluralistic society;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on means to strengthen security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region".

RESOLUTION 56/30

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 29 November 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/542, para. 7)[187]

56/30. Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)

The General Assembly,

Recalling that, in its resolution 1911 (XVIII) of 27 November 1963, it expressed the hope that the States of Latin America would take appropriate measures to conclude a treaty that would prohibit nuclear weapons in Latin America,

Recalling also that, in the same resolution, it voiced its confidence that, once such a treaty was concluded, all States, and in particular the nuclear-weapon States, would lend it their full cooperation for the effective realization of its peaceful aims,

Considering that, in its resolution 2028 (XX) of 19 November 1965, it established the principle of an acceptable balance of mutual responsibilities and obligations between nuclear-weapon States and those that do not possess such weapons,

Recalling that the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)[188] was opened for signature at Mexico City on 14 February 1967,

Noting with satisfaction the holding on 14 February 1997 of the eleventh special session of the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean in commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of the opening for signature of the Treaty of Tlatelolco,

Recalling that, in its preamble, the Treaty of Tlatelolco states that military denuclearized zones are not an end in themselves but rather a means for achieving general and complete disarmament at a later stage,

Recalling also that, in its resolution 2286 (XXII) of 5 December 1967, it welcomed with special satisfaction the Treaty of Tlatelolco as an event of historic significance in the efforts to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons and to promote international peace and security,

Recalling further that in 1990, 1991 and 1992 the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean approved and opened for signature a set of amendments[189] to the Treaty of Tlatelolco,[188] with the aim of enabling the full entry into force of that instrument,

Recalling resolution C/E/RES.27 of the Council of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean,[190] in which the Council called for the promotion of cooperation and consultations with other nuclear-weapon-free zones,

Noting with satisfaction that the Treaty of Tlatelolco is now in force for thirty-two sovereign States of the region,

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[186] See resolution 46/36 L.

[187] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela.

[188] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

[189] A/47/467, annex.

[190] See CD/1392.

Also noting with satisfaction that the amended Treaty of Tlatelolco is fully in force for Argentina, Barbados, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guyana, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay and Venezuela,

1. *Welcomes* the concrete steps taken by some countries of the region during recent years for the consolidation of the regime of military denuclearization established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco);[188]

2. *Urges* the countries of the region that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification of the amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco approved by the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean in its resolutions 267 (E-V), 268 (XII) and 290 (E-VII);

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)".

III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

Contents

Resolution No. — *Title* — *Page*

56/50. Effects of atomic radiation 167

56/51. International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space 168

56/52. Assistance to Palestine refugees 173

56/53. Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East 174

56/54. Persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities 174

56/55. Offers by Member States of grants and scholarships for higher education, including vocational training, for Palestine refugees 175

56/56. Operations of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East 176

56/57. Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues 178

56/58. University of Jerusalem "Al-Quds" for Palestine refugees 179

56/59. Work of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories 180

56/60. Applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and the other occupied Arab territories 181

56/61. Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and the occupied Syrian Golan 182

56/62. Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem 183

56/63. The occupied Syrian Golan 185

56/64. Questions relating to information 186

  A. Information in the service of humanity 186

  B. United Nations public information policies and activities 187

56/65. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations 193

56/66. Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories 194

56/67. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations 196

56/68. Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories 198

56/69. Question of Western Sahara 199

56/70. Question of New Caledonia 200

56/71. Question of Tokelau 202

Resolution No.	*Title*
56/72.	**Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands..........**
	A. General..........
	B. Individual territories..........
56/225.	**Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects..........**

RESOLUTION 56/50

Adopted at the 82nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/547, para. 7)[1]

56/50. Effects of atomic radiation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 913 (X) of 3 December 1955, by which it established the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, and its subsequent resolutions on the subject, including resolution 55/121 of 8 December 2000,[2] in which, inter alia, it requested the Scientific Committee to continue its work,

Taking note with appreciation of the work of the Scientific Committee[3] and of the release of its extensive report, entitled *Hereditary Effects of Radiation: United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation 2001 Report to the General Assembly, with Scientific Annex*,[4]

Reaffirming the desirability of the Scientific Committee continuing its work,

Concerned about the potentially harmful effects on present and future generations resulting from the levels of radiation to which mankind and the environment are exposed,

Noting the views expressed by Member States at its fifty-sixth session with regard to the work of the Scientific Committee,

Conscious of the continuing need to examine and compile information about atomic and ionizing radiation and to analyse its effects on mankind and the environment,

1. *Commends* the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation for the valuable contribution it has been making in the course of the past forty-six years, since its inception, to wider knowledge and understanding of the levels, effects and risks of ionizing radiation, and for fulfilling its original mandate with scientific authority and independence of judgement;

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work of the Scientific Committee[3] and of the release of its extensive report,[4] which provides the scientific and world community with the Committee's latest evaluations of the hereditary effects of radiation;

3. *Reaffirms* the decision to maintain the present functions and independent role of the Scientific Committee, including its present reporting arrangements;

4. *Requests* the Scientific Committee to continue its work, including its important activities to increase knowledge of the levels, effects and risks of ionizing radiation from all sources, and invites the Scientific Committee to submit its programme of work to the General Assembly;

5. *Endorses* the intentions and plans of the Scientific Committee for its future activities of scientific review and assessment on behalf of the General Assembly;

6. *Requests* the Scientific Committee to continue at its next session the review of the important problems in the field of ionizing radiation and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

7. *Requests* the United Nations Environment Programme to continue providing support for the effective conduct of the work of the Scientific Committee and for the dissemination of its findings to the General Assembly, the scientific community and the public;

8. *Expresses its appreciation* for the assistance rendered to the Scientific Committee by Member States, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and non-governmental organizations, and invites them to increase their cooperation in this field;

9. *Invites* the Scientific Committee to continue its consultations with scientists and experts from interested Member States in the process of preparing its future scientific reports;

10. *Welcomes*, in this context, the readiness of Member States to provide the Scientific Committee with relevant information on the effects of ionizing radiation in affected areas, and invites the Scientific Committee to analyse and give due consideration to such information, particularly in the light of its own findings;

11. *Invites* Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations concerned to provide further relevant data about doses, effects and risks from various sources of radiation, which would greatly help in the preparation of future reports of the Scientific Committee to the General Assembly.

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Russian Federation, San Marino, Singapore, Slovakia, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Thailand, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay.

[2] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 49* and corrigendum (A/55/49 (vol. I) and Corr.1), sect. III.

[3] Ibid., *Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 46* (A/56/46).

[4] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.01.IX.2.

RESOLUTION 56/51

Adopted at the 82nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/548, para. 10)[5]

56/51. International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/122 of 13 December 1996, 54/68 of 6 December 1999 and 55/122 of 8 December 2000,

Deeply convinced of the common interest of mankind in promoting and expanding the exploration and use of outer space, as the province of all mankind, for peaceful purposes and in continuing efforts to extend to all States the benefits derived therefrom, and also of the importance of international cooperation in this field, for which the United Nations should continue to provide a focal point,

Reaffirming the importance of international cooperation in developing the rule of law, including the relevant norms of space law and their important role in international cooperation for the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes, and of the widest possible adherence to international treaties that promote the peaceful uses of outer space in order to meet emerging new challenges,

Seriously concerned about the possibility of an arms race in outer space,

Recognizing that all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, should contribute actively to the goal of preventing an arms race in outer space as an essential condition for the promotion and strengthening of international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Considering that space debris is an issue of concern to all nations,

Noting the progress achieved in the further development of peaceful space exploration and applications as well as in various national and cooperative space projects, which contributes to international cooperation, and the importance of further developing the legal framework to strengthen international cooperation in this field,

Convinced of the importance of the recommendations in the resolution entitled "The Space Millennium: Vienna Declaration on Space and Human Development", adopted by the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III), held at Vienna from 19 to 30 July 1999,[6]

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III,[7]

Convinced that the use of space science and technology and their applications, in such areas as telemedicine, tele-education and Earth observation, contribute to achieving the objectives of the global conferences of the United Nations that address various aspects of economic, social and cultural development, inter alia, poverty eradication,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the work of its forty-fourth session,[8]

1. *Endorses* the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the work of its forty-fourth session;[8]

2. *Urges* States that have not yet become parties to the international treaties governing the uses of outer space[9] to give consideration to ratifying or acceding to those treaties;

3. *Notes* that, at its fortieth session, the Legal Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space continued its work, as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/122;[10]

4. *Notes with satisfaction* the agreement reached by the Legal Subcommittee on the question of the character and utilization of the geostationary orbit and the subsequent endorsement of that agreement by the Committee;[11]

5. *Endorses* the recommendation of the Committee that the Legal Subcommittee, at its forty-first session, taking into account the concerns of all countries, in particular those of developing countries:

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[5] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Chile (on behalf of the Working Group on International Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space).

[6] See *Report of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, Vienna, 19–30 July 1999* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.00.I.3), chap. I, resolution 1.

[7] A/56/394 and Corr.1.

[8] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 20* and corrigendum (A/56/20 and Corr.1).

[9] Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (resolution 2222 (XXI), annex); Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space (resolution 2345 (XXII), annex); Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects (resolution 2777 (XXVI), annex); Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space (resolution 3235 (XXIX), annex); and Agreement Governing the Activities of States on the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (resolution 34/68, annex).

[10] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 20* and corrigendum (A/56/20 and Corr.1), chap. II.D.

[11] A/AC.105/738, annex III; and *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/55/20), para. 129.

(*a*) Consider the following as regular agenda items:

(i) General exchange of views;

(ii) Status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space;

(iii) Information on the activities of international organizations relating to space law;

(iv) Matters relating to:

a. The definition and delimitation of outer space;

b. The character and utilization of the geostationary orbit, including consideration of ways and means to ensure the rational and equitable use of the geostationary orbit without prejudice to the role of the International Telecommunication Union;

(*b*) Consider the following single issues/items for discussion:

(i) Review and possible revision of the Principles Relevant to the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space;[12]

(ii) Consideration of the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment, which was opened for signature at Cape Town, South Africa, on 16 November 2001, and the preliminary draft protocol on matters specific to space property;

(*c*) Continue its review of the concept of the "launching State", in accordance with the work plan adopted by the Committee;[13]

6. *Notes* that the Legal Subcommittee, at its forty-first session, will submit its proposals to the Committee for new items to be considered by the Subcommittee at its forty-second session, in 2003;

7. *Agrees* that, in the context of paragraph 5 (*a*) (ii) above, the Legal Subcommittee should establish a working group with the terms of reference as agreed upon by the Legal Subcommittee at its fortieth session,[14] to be convened for three years, from 2002 to 2004;

8. *Notes* that the Committee would invite interested member States to designate experts to identify which aspects of the report on the ethics of space policy of the World Commission on the Ethics of Scientific Knowledge and Technology of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization might need to be studied by the Committee and to draft a report, in consultation with other international organizations and in close liaison with the World Commission, with a view to making a presentation on the matter at the forty-second session of the Legal Subcommittee, under the agenda item entitled "Information on the activities of international organizations relating to space law";

9. *Notes also* that, in the context of paragraph 5 (*a*) (iv) above and in accordance with the agreement referred to in paragraph 4 above, the Legal Subcommittee will reconvene its working group on the item only to consider matters relating to the definition and delimitation of outer space;

10. *Endorses* the agreement of the Legal Subcommittee, in the context of paragraph 5 (*b*) (ii) above, concerning the establishment of an ad hoc consultative mechanism to review the relevant issues;[15]

11. *Notes* that, in the context of paragraph 5 (*c*) above, the Legal Subcommittee will reconvene its working group to consider the item;

12. *Agrees* that, in accordance with the measures relating to the working methods of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies,[16] which were endorsed by the General Assembly in paragraph 11 of its resolution 52/56 of 10 December 1997, the Committee should reach consensus agreement at its forty-fifth session, in 2002, on the composition of the bureaux of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies for the third term, starting in 2003;

13. *Notes* that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, at its thirty-eighth session, continued its work as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/122;[17]

14. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its thirty-eighth session continued to consider, on a priority basis, the agenda item on space debris;

15. *Endorses* the recommendation of the Committee that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, at its thirty-ninth session, taking into account the concerns of all countries, in particular those of developing countries:

(*a*) Consider the following items:

(i) General exchange of views and introduction to reports submitted on national activities;

(ii) United Nations Programme on Space Applications;

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[12] See resolution 47/68.

[13] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 20* and corrigendum (A/54/20 and Corr.1), chap. II.C, para. 114.

[14] See A/AC.105/763 and Corr.1, para. 118.

[15] Ibid., para. 94; see also *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 20* and corrigendum (A/56/20 and Corr.1), paras. 172 and 173.

[16] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/52/20), annex I.

[17] Ibid., *Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 20* and corrigendum (A/56/20 and Corr.1), chap. II.C.

(iii) Implementation of the recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III);

(iv) Matters relating to remote-sensing of the Earth by satellite, including applications for developing countries and monitoring of the Earth's environment;

(*b*) Consider the following items in accordance with the work plans adopted by the Committee;[18]

(i) Use of nuclear power sources in outer space;

(ii) Means and mechanisms for strengthening inter-agency cooperation and increasing the use of space applications and services within and among entities of the United Nations system;

(iii) Implementation of an integrated, space-based global natural disaster management system;

(iv) Space debris;

(*c*) Consider the following single issues/items for discussion:

(i) Examination of the physical nature and technical attributes of the geostationary orbit and its utilization and applications, including, inter alia, in the field of space communications, as well as other questions relating to developments in space communications, taking particular account of the needs and interests of developing countries;

(ii) International cooperation in limiting obtrusive space advertising that could interfere with astronomical observations;

(iii) Mobilization of financial resources to develop capacity in space science and technology applications;

16. *Notes* that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its thirty-ninth session will submit its proposal to the Committee for a draft provisional agenda for the fortieth session of the Subcommittee, in 2003;

17. *Endorses* the recommendation of the Committee that the Committee on Space Research and the International Astronautical Federation, in liaison with member States, be invited to arrange a symposium on the theme "Remote sensing for water management in arid and semi-arid countries", with as wide a participation as possible, to be held during the first week of the thirty-ninth session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee;

18. *Notes with satisfaction* that an industry symposium, with the participation of member States, will be organized during the thirty-ninth session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, focusing on the promising area of very high resolution remote sensing and its impact on operational applications and also discussing the new space market situation;

19. *Agrees* that, in the context of paragraphs 15 (*a*) (ii) and (iii) and 16 above, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its thirty-ninth session should reconvene the Working Group of the Whole;

20. *Also agrees* that, in the context of paragraph 15 (*b*) (i) above, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its thirty-ninth session should reconvene its Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space;

21. *Invites* the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities to contribute to the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee in the context of paragraph 15 (*b*) (ii) above by, inter alia, considering the barriers to greater use of space applications and services within the United Nations system and suggesting means and mechanisms to eliminate those barriers;[19]

22. *Endorses* the United Nations Programme on Space Applications for 2002, as proposed to the Committee by the Expert on Space Applications;[20]

23. *Notes with satisfaction* that, in accordance with paragraph 30 of General Assembly resolution 50/27 of 6 December 1995, the African regional centres for space science and technology education, in the French language and in the English language, located in Morocco and Nigeria, respectively, and the Centre for Space Science and Technology Education in Asia and the Pacific continued their education programmes in 2001 and that progress has been achieved in furthering the goals of the Network of Space Science and Technology Education and Research Institutions of Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe and in establishing regional centres for space science and technology education in the other regions;

24. *Notes* that Member States concerned in Asia and the Pacific continued to hold further consultations, with the assistance of the Office for Outer Space Affairs, with a view to making the Centre for Space Science and Technology Education in Asia and the Pacific grow into a network of nodes;

25. *Recognizes* the usefulness and significance of the Space Conferences of the Americas for the Latin American countries, notes with satisfaction that Colombia offered to host a Fourth Space Conference of the Americas in 2003, for which a Preparatory Conference will be convened during the

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[18] See A/AC.105/697 and Corr.1, annex III, appendix, for the work plan for item (i); A/AC.105/736, annex II, paras. 40 and 41, for items (ii) and (iii), respectively; and A/AC.105/761, para. 130, for item (iv).

[19] See A/AC.105/761, para. 81.

[20] See A/AC.105/750, sects. II–IV.

International Air and Space Fair, known as FIDAE, to be held in Santiago in April 2002, and encourages other regions to convene periodically regional conferences with a view to achieving convergence of positions on issues of common concern in the field of the peaceful uses of outer space among States Members of the United Nations;

26. *Urges* all Governments, organs, organizations and programmes within the United Nations system as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental entities conducting space-related activities to take the necessary action for the effective implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III, in particular its resolution entitled "The Space Millennium: Vienna Declaration on Space and Human Development",[6] and requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III;

27. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Committee at its forty-fourth session established action teams under the voluntary leadership of Member States to implement the recommendations of UNISPACE III, which had been assigned highest priority by Member States and for which Member States had offered to lead activities, and that those action teams would report on the work conducted and submit work plans to the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its thirty-ninth session for approval;[21]

28. *Notes* that, in accordance with paragraph 29 of General Assembly resolution 55/122, the resources necessary to carry out measures and activities contained in the plan of action submitted by the Office for Outer Space Affairs to implement recommendations of UNISPACE III had been included in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003[22] and that the Committee stressed the importance of the full implementation of the plan of action with the necessary resources in 2002;[23]

29. *Agrees* that, in accordance with paragraph 30 of General Assembly resolution 55/122, the Committee should include in the agendas of its forty-fifth to forty-seventh sessions an item on the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III;

30. *Requests* the Committee to prepare a report under the agenda item on the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III for submission to the General Assembly, in order for the Assembly to review and appraise, at its fifty-ninth session, in 2004, in accordance with paragraph 16 of General Assembly resolution 54/68, the implementation of the outcome of UNISPACE III and to consider further actions and initiatives, and agrees that in this context, it would be advisable to establish a working group of the Committee which would take into account the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee on the matter;

31. *Also requests* the Committee to submit for consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session recommendations on the format, scope and organizational aspects of the above-mentioned review by the Assembly;

32. *Urges* all Member States to contribute to the Trust Fund for the United Nations Programme on Space Applications to support activities to implement the recommendations of UNISPACE III, in particular the priority project proposals as recommended by the Committee at its forty-third session;[24]

33. *Recommends* that more attention be paid and political support be provided to all matters relating to the protection and the preservation of the outer space environment, especially those potentially affecting the Earth's environment;

34. *Considers* that it is essential that Member States pay more attention to the problem of collisions of space objects, including those with nuclear power sources, with space debris, and other aspects of space debris, calls for the continuation of national research on this question, for the development of improved technology for the monitoring of space debris and for the compilation and dissemination of data on space debris, also considers that, to the extent possible, information thereon should be provided to the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, and agrees that international cooperation is needed to expand appropriate and affordable strategies to minimize the impact of space debris on future space missions;

35. *Urges* all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to the goal of preventing an arms race in outer space as an essential condition for the promotion of international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes;

36. *Emphasizes* the need to increase the benefits of space technology and its applications and to contribute to an orderly growth of space activities favourable to sustained economic growth and sustainable development in all countries, including mitigation of the consequences of disasters, in particular in the developing countries;

37. *Agrees* that the benefits of space technology and its applications should be prominently brought to the attention of conferences organized within the United Nations system to address global issues relating to social, economic and cultural development and that the use of space technology should be

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[21] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 20* and corrigendum (A/56/20 and Corr.1), paras. 50–62.

[22] Ibid., *Supplement No. 6* (A/56/6/Rev.1), sect. 6.

[23] Ibid., *Supplement No. 20* and corrigendum (A/56/20 and Corr.1), para. 64.

[24] Ibid., *Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/55/20), para. 87.

promoted towards achieving the objectives of those conferences and implementing the United Nations Millennium Declaration;[25]

38. *Notes* that the Chairman of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space submitted a letter to the Secretary-General,[26] as requested by the Committee at its forty-fourth session,[27] bringing to his attention the need to consider the contributions of space science and technology to a greater extent in achieving the objectives of major United Nations conferences, taking particular account of the needs of developing countries;

39. *Invites* all the organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, particularly those that participate in the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities, to identify recommendations of major United Nations conferences that could be implemented with the use of space science and technology;

40. *Decides* that the practice of sharing seats on a rotating basis between Cuba and Peru as well as Malaysia and the Republic of Korea shall be terminated, that those four countries shall become full members of the Committee, and that Saudi Arabia and Slovakia shall become members of the Committee;

41. *Agrees* that, after the current enlargement of the membership of the Committee, there would be no need to expand its membership further for the next seven years, except in special circumstances meriting consideration before that period has elapsed;

42. *Also agrees* that each regional group should hold consultations among its members that are also members of the Committee, for the purpose of urging them to participate in the work of the Committee and its two subcommittees, and that the regional groups would report to the Committee at its forty-fifth session on the results of their consultations;

43. *Endorses* the decision of the Committee to grant permanent observer status to the European Association for the International Space Year, the National Space Society and the Space Generation Advisory Council;

44. *Requests* the Committee to continue to consider, as a matter of priority, ways and means of maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes and to report thereon to the Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

45. *Also requests* the Committee to continue to consider, at its forty-fifth session, its agenda item entitled "Spin-off benefits of space technology: review of current status";

46. *Agrees* that a new item entitled "Space and society" should be included in the agenda of the Committee at its forty-fifth and forty-sixth sessions;

47. *Also agrees* that the Committee should consider a report on the activities of the International Satellite System for Search and Rescue as a part of its consideration of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications under the agenda item entitled "Report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee", and invites Member States to report on their activities regarding the System;

48. *Invites* the Committee to expand the scope of international cooperation relating to the social, economic, ethical and human dimension in space science and technology applications;

49. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other international organizations to continue and, where appropriate, enhance their cooperation with the Committee and to provide it with progress reports on their work relating to the peaceful uses of outer space;

50. *Requests* the Committee to continue its work, in accordance with the present resolution, to consider, as appropriate, new projects in outer space activities and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session, including its views on which subjects should be studied in the future;

51. *Also requests* the Committee to consider and identify new mechanisms of international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space, in accordance with the preamble to the present resolution.

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As a result of the decision taken by the General Assembly in paragraph 40 of the above resolution, the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space is composed of the following sixty-four Member States: Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Czech Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela and Viet Nam.

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[25] See resolution 55/2.

[26] A/56/306.

[27] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 20* and corrigendum (A/56/20 and Corr.1), para. 113.

RESOLUTION 56/52

Adopted at the 82nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/549, para. 22),[28] by a recorded vote of 151 to 2, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands

Abstaining: Micronesia (Federated States of), United States of America

56/52. Assistance to Palestine refugees

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/123 of 8 December 2000 and all its previous resolutions on the question, including resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948,

Taking note of the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001,[29]

Stressing the importance of the Middle East peace process,

Welcoming the signature in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993 by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the people of Palestine, of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements[30] and the subsequent implementation agreements,

Aware that the Multilateral Working Group on Refugees of the Middle East peace process has an important role to play in the peace process,

1. *Notes with regret* that repatriation or compensation of the refugees, as provided for in paragraph 11 of its resolution 194 (III), has not yet been effected and that, therefore, the situation of the refugees continues to be a matter of concern;

2. *Also notes with regret* that the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine has been unable to find a means of achieving progress in the implementation of paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 194 (III), and requests the Commission to exert continued efforts towards the implementation of that paragraph and to report to the Assembly as appropriate, but no later than 1 September 2002;

3. *Expresses its thanks* to the Commissioner-General and to all the staff of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, recognizing that the Agency is doing all it can within the limits of available resources, and also expresses its thanks to the specialized agencies and to private organizations for their valuable work in assisting refugees;

4. *Notes* the significant success of the Peace Implementation Programme of the Agency since the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements,[30] and stresses the importance that contributions to this Programme not be at the expense of the General Fund;

5. *Welcomes* the increased cooperation between the Agency and international and regional organizations, States and relevant agencies and non-governmental organizations, which is essential to enhancing the contributions of the Agency towards improved conditions for the refugees and thereby the social stability of the occupied territory;

6. *Urges* all Member States to extend and expedite aid and assistance with a view to the economic and social development of the Palestinian people and the occupied territory;

7. *Reiterates its deep concern* regarding the persisting critical financial situation of the Agency, as outlined in the report of the Commissioner-General;[29]

8. *Commends* the efforts of the Commissioner-General to move towards budgetary transparency and internal efficiency, and welcomes in this respect the unified budget for the biennium 2002–2003;[31]

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[28] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[29] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 13* and addendum (A/56/13 and Add.1).

[30] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[31] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 13*, addendum (A/56/13/Add.1).

9. *Welcomes* the consultative process between the Agency, host Governments, the Palestinian Authority and donors on management reforms;

10. *Notes with profound concern* that the continuing shortfall in the finances of the Agency, in particular at this time of acute crisis, has a significant negative influence on the living conditions of the Palestine refugees most in need and that it therefore has possible consequences for the peace process;

11. *Expresses deep concern* about the continuing problem of restrictions on the freedom of movement of Agency staff, vehicles and goods in the occupied territory, which has an adverse impact on the operational effectiveness of the Agency's programmes;

12. *Calls upon* all donors, as a matter of urgency, to make the most generous efforts possible to meet the anticipated needs of the Agency, including the remaining costs of moving the headquarters to Gaza, encourages contributing Governments to contribute regularly and to consider increasing their regular contributions, and urges non-contributing Governments to contribute;

13. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the Agency until 30 June 2005, without prejudice to the provisions of paragraph 11 of its resolution 194 (III).

RESOLUTION 56/53

Adopted at the 82nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/549, para. 22)[32]

56/53. Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2656 (XXV) of 7 December 1970, 2728 (XXV) of 15 December 1970, 2971 (XXVI) of 6 December 1971, 55/124 of 8 December 2000 and the previous resolutions on this question,

Recalling also its decision 36/462 of 16 March 1982, by which it took note of the special report of the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East,[33]

Having considered the report of the Working Group,[34]

Taking into account the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001,[35]

Deeply concerned about the continuing financial situation of the Agency, which has affected and affects the continuation of the provision of necessary Agency services to Palestine refugees, including the emergency-related and humanitarian programmes,

Emphasizing the continuing need for extraordinary efforts in order to maintain, at least at the current level, the activities of the Agency, as well as to enable the Agency to carry out essential construction,

1. *Commends* the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East for its efforts to assist in ensuring the financial security of the Agency;

2. *Takes note with approval* of the report of the Working Group;[34]

3. *Requests* the Working Group to continue its efforts, in cooperation with the Secretary-General and the Commissioner-General, to find a solution to the financial situation of the Agency;

4. *Welcomes* the new, unified budget structure for the biennium 2002–2003,[36] which can contribute significantly to improved budgetary transparency of the Agency;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the necessary services and assistance to the Working Group for the conduct of its work.

RESOLUTION 56/54

Adopted at the 82nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/549, para. 22),[37] by a recorded vote of 151 to 3, with 1 abstention, as follows:

In favour: Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia,

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[32] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[33] A/36/866 and Corr.1; see also A/37/591.

[34] A/56/430.

[35] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 13* and addendum (A/56/13 and Add.1).

[36] Ibid., *Supplement No. 13*, addendum (A/56/13/Add.1).

[37] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine.

Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, United States of America

Abstaining: Micronesia (Federated States of)

56/54. Persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2252 (ES-V) of 4 July 1967, 2341 B (XXII) of 19 December 1967 and all subsequent related resolutions,

Recalling also Security Council resolutions 237 (1967) of 14 June 1967 and 259 (1968) of 27 September 1968,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted in pursuance of its resolution 55/125 of 8 December 2000,[38]

Taking note also of the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001,[39]

Concerned about the continuing human suffering resulting from the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities,

Taking note of the relevant provisions of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements, signed in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993 by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization,[40] with regard to the modalities for the admission of persons displaced in 1967, and concerned that the process agreed upon has not yet been effected,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of all persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities to return to their homes or former places of residence in the territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

2. *Expresses deep concern* that the mechanism agreed upon by the parties in article XII of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements[40] on the return of displaced persons has not been effected, and expresses the hope for an accelerated return of displaced persons;

3. *Endorses*, in the meanwhile, the efforts of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East to continue to provide humanitarian assistance, as far as practicable, on an emergency basis and as a temporary measure, to persons in the area who are currently displaced and in serious need of continued assistance as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities;

4. *Strongly appeals* to all Governments and to organizations and individuals to contribute generously to the Agency and to the other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned for the above-mentioned purposes;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, after consulting with the Commissioner-General, to report to the General Assembly before its fifty-seventh session on the progress made with regard to the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/55

Adopted at the 82nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/549, para. 22),[41] by a recorded vote of 154 to none, with 1 abstention, as follows:

In favour: Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland,

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[38] A/56/382.

[39] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 13* and addendum (A/56/13 and Add.1).

[40] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[41] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine.

Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: None

Abstaining: Israel

56/55. Offers by Member States of grants and scholarships for higher education, including vocational training, for Palestine refugees

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 212 (III) of 19 November 1948 on assistance to Palestine refugees,

Recalling also its resolutions 35/13 B of 3 November 1980, 36/146 H of 16 December 1981, 37/120 D of 16 December 1982, 38/83 D of 15 December 1983, 39/99 D of 14 December 1984, 40/165 D of 16 December 1985, 41/69 D of 3 December 1986, 42/69 D of 2 December 1987, 43/57 D of 6 December 1988, 44/47 D of 8 December 1989, 45/73 D of 11 December 1990, 46/46 D of 9 December 1991, 47/69 D of 14 December 1992, 48/40 D of 10 December 1993, 49/35 D of 9 December 1994, 50/28 D of 6 December 1995, 51/127 of 13 December 1996, 52/60 of 10 December 1997, 53/49 of 3 December 1998, 54/72 of 6 December 1999 and 55/126 of 8 December 2000,

Cognizant of the fact that the Palestine refugees have, for the last five decades, lost their homes, lands and means of livelihood,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[42]

Having also considered the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001,[43]

1. *Urges* all States to respond to the appeal made in its resolution 32/90 F of 13 December 1977 and reiterated in subsequent relevant resolutions in a manner commensurate with the needs of Palestine refugees for higher education, including vocational training;

2. *Strongly appeals* to all States, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to augment the special allocations for grants and scholarships to Palestine refugees, in addition to their contributions to the regular budget of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to all Governments, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations that responded favourably to its resolutions on this question;

4. *Invites* the relevant specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue, within their respective spheres of competence, to extend assistance for higher education to Palestine refugee students;

5. *Appeals* to all States, specialized agencies and the United Nations University to contribute generously to the Palestinian universities in the Palestinian territory occupied by Israel since 1967, including, in due course, the proposed University of Jerusalem "Al-Quds" for Palestine refugees;

6. *Appeals* to all States, specialized agencies and other international bodies to contribute towards the establishment of vocational training centres for Palestine refugees;

7. *Requests* the Agency to act as the recipient and trustee for the special allocations for grants and scholarships and to award them to qualified Palestine refugee candidates;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/56

Adopted at the 82nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/549, para. 22),[44] by a recorded vote of 151 to 3, with 1 abstention, as follows:

In favour: Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon

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[42] A/56/375.

[43] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 13* and addendum (A/56/13 and Add.1).

[44] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine.

Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, United States of America

Abstaining: Micronesia (Federated States of)

56/56. Operations of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 212 (III) of 19 November 1948, 302 (IV) of 8 December 1949 and all subsequent related resolutions,

Recalling also the relevant Security Council resolutions,

Having considered the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001,[45]

Taking note of the letter dated 25 September 2001 from the Chairman of the Advisory Commission of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East addressed to the Commissioner-General,[46] contained in the report of the Commissioner-General,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General submitted in pursuance of its resolutions 48/40 E,[47] 48/40 H[48] and 48/40 J[49] of 10 December 1993 and 49/35 C[50] of 9 December 1994,

Recalling Articles 100, 104 and 105 of the Charter of the United Nations and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[51]

Affirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[52] to the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem,

Aware of the fact that Palestine refugees have, for over five decades, lost their homes, lands and means of livelihood,

Also aware of the continuing needs of Palestine refugees throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory and in the other fields of operation, namely, in Lebanon, Jordan and the Syrian Arab Republic,

Further aware of the valuable work done by the refugee affairs officers of the Agency in providing protection to the Palestinian people, in particular Palestine refugees,

Gravely concerned about the increased suffering of the Palestine refugees, including loss of life and injury, during the recent tragic events in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem,

Gravely concerned also about the policies of closure and severe restrictions on the movement of persons and goods throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, which have had a grave impact on the socio-economic situation of the Palestine refugees,

Deeply concerned about the negative impact of these closures and restrictions on the staff and services of the Agency,

Deeply concerned also about the continuing critical financial situation of the Agency and its effect on the continuity of provision of necessary Agency services to the Palestine refugees, including the emergency-related programmes,

Aware of the work of the Peace Implementation Programme of the Agency,

Recalling the signing in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993 of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization[53] and the subsequent implementation agreements,

Taking note of the agreement reached on 24 June 1994, embodied in an exchange of letters between the Agency and the Palestine Liberation Organization,[54]

Aware of the establishment of a working relationship between the Advisory Commission of the Agency and the Palestine Liberation Organization in accordance with General Assembly decision 48/417 of 10 December 1993,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, as well as to all the staff of the Agency, for their tireless efforts and valuable work, including and particularly during the difficult situation of the past year;

2. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the Advisory Commission of the Agency, and requests it to continue its efforts and to keep the General Assembly informed of its activities, including the full implementation of decision 48/417;

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[45] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 13* and addendum (A/56/13 and Add.1).

[46] Ibid., p. viii.

[47] A/49/440.

[48] A/49/442.

[49] A/49/443.

[50] A/50/451.

[51] Resolution 22 A (I).

[52] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[53] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[54] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/49/13), annex I.

3. *Takes note* of the functioning of the headquarters of the Agency in Gaza City on the basis of the Headquarters Agreement between the Agency and the Palestinian Authority;

4. *Acknowledges* the support of the host Government and the Palestine Liberation Organization for the Agency in the discharge of its duties;

5. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to accept the de jure applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949[52] and to abide scrupulously by its provisions;

6. *Also calls upon* Israel to abide by Articles 100, 104 and 105 of the Charter of the United Nations and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations[51] with regard to the safety of the personnel of the Agency, the protection of its institutions and the safeguarding of the security of the facilities of the Agency in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem;

7. *Calls once again upon* the Government of Israel to compensate the Agency for damage to its property and facilities resulting from actions by the Israeli side;

8. *Calls upon* Israel particularly to cease obstructing the movement of the personnel, vehicles and supplies of the Agency, which has a detrimental impact on the Agency's operations;

9. *Also calls upon* Israel to cease its policies of closure and of placing restrictions on the movement of persons and goods, which have had a grave impact on the socio-economic situation of the Palestinian population, in particular the Palestine refugees;

10. *Requests* the Commissioner-General to proceed with the issuance of identification cards for Palestine refugees and their descendants in the Occupied Palestinian Territory;

11. *Notes* that the context created by the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization[53] and subsequent implementation agreements has had major consequences for the activities of the Agency, which is henceforth called upon, in close cooperation with the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority, the specialized agencies and the World Bank, to continue to contribute towards the development of economic and social stability in the occupied territory;

12. *Notes also* that the functioning of the Agency remains essential in all fields of operation;

13. *Notes further* the significant success of the Peace Implementation Programme of the Agency, as well as the microfinance and enterprise programmes;

14. *Expresses concern* about those remaining austerity measures due to the financial crisis, which have affected the quality and level of some of the services of the Agency;

15. *Reiterates its request* to the Commissioner-General to proceed with the modernization of the archives of the Agency;

16. *Urges* all States, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to continue and to increase their contributions to the Agency so as to ease the current financial constraints and to support the Agency in maintaining the provision of the most basic and effective assistance to the Palestine refugees.

RESOLUTION 56/57

Adopted at the 82nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/549, para. 22),[55] by a recorded vote of 150 to 3, with 1 abstention, as follows:

In favour: Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, United States of America

Abstaining: Micronesia (Federated States of)

56/57. Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 36/146 C of 16 December 1981 and all its subsequent resolutions on the question,

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[55] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine.

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted in pursuance of resolution 55/128 of 8 December 2000,[56]

Taking note also of the report of the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine for the period from 1 September 2000 to 31 August 2001,[57]

Recalling that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[58] and the principles of international law uphold the principle that no one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his or her property,

Recalling in particular its resolution 394 (V) of 14 December 1950, in which it directed the Conciliation Commission, in consultation with the parties concerned, to prescribe measures for the protection of the rights, property and interests of the Palestine Arab refugees,

Noting the completion of the programme of identification and evaluation of Arab property, as announced by the Conciliation Commission in its twenty-second progress report,[59] and the fact that the Land Office had a schedule of Arab owners and file of documents defining the location, area and other particulars of Arab property,

Recalling that, in the framework of the Middle East peace process, the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Government of Israel agreed, in the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993,[60] to commence negotiations on permanent status issues, including the important issue of the refugees,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Palestine Arab refugees are entitled to their property and to the income derived therefrom, in conformity with the principles of justice and equity;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all appropriate steps, in consultation with the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine, for the protection of Arab property, assets and property rights in Israel;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work done to preserve and modernize the existing records of the Conciliation Commission;

4. *Calls once again upon* Israel to render all facilities and assistance to the Secretary-General in the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Calls upon* all the parties concerned to provide the Secretary-General with any pertinent information in their possession concerning Arab property, assets and property rights in Israel that would assist him in the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Urges* the Palestinian and Israeli sides, as agreed between them, to deal with the important issue of Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues in the framework of the final status negotiations of the Middle East peace process;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/58

Adopted at the 82nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/549, para. 22),[61] by a recorded vote of 151 to 3, with 1 abstention, as follows:

In favour: Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, United States of America

Abstaining: Micronesia (Federated States of)

56/58. University of Jerusalem "Al-Quds" for Palestine refugees

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 36/146 G of 16 December 1981, 37/120 C of 16 December 1982, 38/83 K of 15 December 1983,

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[56] A/56/420.

[57] A/56/290, annex.

[58] Resolution 217 A (III).

[59] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Nineteenth Session, Annexes*, Annex No. 11, document A/5700.

[60] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[61] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine.

39/99 K of 14 December 1984, 40/165 D and K of 16 December 1985, 41/69 K of 3 December 1986, 42/69 K of 2 December 1987, 43/57 J of 6 December 1988, 44/47 J of 8 December 1989, 45/73 J of 11 December 1990, 46/46 J of 9 December 1991, 47/69 J of 14 December 1992, 48/40 I of 10 December 1993, 49/35 G of 9 December 1994, 50/28 G of 6 December 1995, 51/130 of 13 December 1996, 52/63 of 10 December 1997, 53/52 of 3 December 1998, 54/75 of 6 December 1999 and 55/129 of 8 December 2000,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[62]

Having also considered the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001,[63]

1. *Emphasizes* the need for strengthening the educational system in the Palestinian territory occupied by Israel since 5 June 1967, including Jerusalem, and specifically the need for the establishment of the proposed university;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take all necessary measures for establishing the University of Jerusalem "Al-Quds", in accordance with General Assembly resolution 35/13 B of 3 November 1980, giving due consideration to the recommendations consistent with the provisions of that resolution;

3. *Calls once again upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to cooperate in the implementation of the present resolution and to remove the hindrances that it has put in the way of establishing the University of Jerusalem "Al-Quds";

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/59

Adopted at the 82nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/550, para. 22),[64] by a recorded vote of 83 to 4, with 58 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), United States of America

Abstaining: Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Mongolia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Yugoslavia

56/59. Work of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Guided also by the principles of international humanitarian law, in particular the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[65] as well as international standards of human rights, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[66] and the International Covenants on Human Rights,[67]

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including resolution 2443 (XXIII) of 19 December 1968, and relevant resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights,

Recalling also relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Aware of the lasting impact of the uprising (intifada) of the Palestinian people,

Convinced that occupation itself represents a gross violation of human rights,

Gravely concerned about the continuation of the tragic events that have taken place since 28 September 2000, including the excessive use of force by the Israeli occupying forces against Palestinian civilians, resulting in numerous deaths and injuries,

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[62] A/56/421.

[63] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 13* and addendum (A/56/13 and Add.1).

[64] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine.

[65] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[66] Resolution 217 A (III).

[67] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

Having considered the reports of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories[68] and the relevant reports of the Secretary-General,[69]

Recalling the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements by the Government of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993,[70] as well as the subsequent implementation agreements, including the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip signed in Washington, D.C., on 28 September 1995,[71]

Expressing the hope that, with the progress of the peace process, the Israeli occupation will be brought to an end and therefore violation of the human rights of the Palestinian people will cease,

1. *Commends* the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories for its efforts in performing the tasks assigned to it by the General Assembly and for its impartiality;

2. *Demands* that Israel cooperate with the Special Committee in implementing its mandate;

3. *Deplores* those policies and practices of Israel which violate the human rights of the Palestinian people and other Arabs of the occupied territories, as reflected in the reports of the Special Committee covering the reporting period;

4. *Expresses grave concern* about the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, as a result of Israeli practices and measures, and especially condemns the excessive use of force in the past year which has resulted in more than seven hundred Palestinian deaths and tens of thousands of injuries;

5. *Requests* the Special Committee, pending complete termination of the Israeli occupation, to continue to investigate Israeli policies and practices in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, especially Israeli lack of compliance with the provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[65] and to consult, as appropriate, with the International Committee of the Red Cross according to its regulations in order to ensure that the welfare and human rights of the peoples of the occupied territories are safeguarded and to report to the Secretary-General as soon as possible and whenever the need arises thereafter;

6. *Also requests* the Special Committee to submit regularly to the Secretary-General periodic reports on the current situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem;

7. *Further requests* the Special Committee to continue to investigate the treatment of prisoners in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To provide the Special Committee with all necessary facilities, including those required for its visits to the occupied territories, so that it may investigate the Israeli policies and practices referred to in the present resolution;

(*b*) To continue to make available such additional staff as may be necessary to assist the Special Committee in the performance of its tasks;

(*c*) To circulate regularly to Member States the periodic reports mentioned in paragraph 6 above;

(*d*) To ensure the widest circulation of the reports of the Special Committee and of information regarding its activities and findings, by all means available, through the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat and, where necessary, to reprint those reports of the Special Committee that are no longer available;

(*e*) To report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the tasks entrusted to him in the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories".

RESOLUTION 56/60

Adopted at the 82nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/550, para. 22),[72] by a recorded vote of 148 to 4, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia,

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[68] See A/56/428 and Add.1 and A/56/491.

[69] A/56/214–219.

[70] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[71] A/51/889-S/1997/357, annex.

[72] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine.

Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), United States of America

Abstaining: Angola, Nicaragua

56/60. Applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and the other occupied Arab territories

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Recalling its relevant resolutions,

Having considered the reports of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories[73] and the relevant reports of the Secretary-General,[74]

Considering that the promotion of respect for the obligations arising from the Charter of the United Nations and other instruments and rules of international law is among the basic purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Noting the convening of the meeting of experts of the high contracting parties to the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[75] at Geneva from 27 to 29 October 1998, at the initiative of the Government of Switzerland in its capacity as the depositary of the Convention, concerning general problems of application of the Convention in general and, in particular, in occupied territories,

Noting also the convening for the first time, on 15 July 1999, of a Conference of High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention, as recommended by the General Assembly in its resolution ES-10/6 of 9 February 1999, on measures to enforce the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and to ensure respect thereof in accordance with article 1 common to the four Geneva Conventions,[76] and aware of the statement adopted by the Conference,

Stressing that Israel, the occupying Power, should comply strictly with its obligations under international law,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[75] is applicable to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

2. *Demands* that Israel accept the de jure applicability of the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, and that it comply scrupulously with the provisions of the Convention;

3. *Calls upon* all States parties to the Convention, in accordance with article 1 common to the four Geneva Conventions,[76] to exert all efforts in order to ensure respect for its provisions by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

4. *Reiterates* the need for speedy implementation of the recommendations contained in its resolutions ES-10/3 of 15 July 1997, ES-10/4 of 13 November 1997, ES-10/5 of 17 March 1998, ES-10/6 of 9 February 1999 and ES-10/7 of 20 October 2000 with regard to ensuring respect by Israel, the occupying Power, for the provisions of the Convention;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/61

Adopted at the 82nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/550, para. 22),[77] by a recorded vote of 145 to 4, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia,

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[73] See A/56/428 and Add.1 and A/56/491.

[74] A/56/215 and A/56/218.

[75] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[76] Ibid., Nos. 970–973.

[77] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine.

Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), United States of America

Abstaining: Nicaragua, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands

56/61. Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and the occupied Syrian Golan

The General Assembly,

Guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and affirming the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including those adopted at its tenth emergency special session, as well as relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 446 (1979) of 22 March 1979, 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980 and 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

Reaffirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[78] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and to the occupied Syrian Golan,

Aware of the Middle East peace process started at Madrid and the agreements reached between the parties, in particular the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993,[79] and the subsequent implementation agreements,

Expressing grave concern about the continuation by Israel of settlement activities, including the ongoing construction of the settlement in Jabal Abu-Ghneim and in Ras Al-Amud in and around Occupied East Jerusalem, in violation of international humanitarian law, relevant United Nations resolutions and the agreements reached between the parties,

Taking into consideration the detrimental impact of Israeli settlement policies, decisions and activities on the Middle East peace process,

Gravely concerned in particular about the dangerous situation resulting from actions taken by the illegal armed Israeli settlers in the occupied territory, as illustrated by the massacre of Palestinian worshippers by an illegal Israeli settler in Al-Khalil on 25 February 1994, and during the past year,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[80]

1. *Reaffirms* that Israeli settlements in the Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan are illegal and an obstacle to peace and economic and social development;

2. *Calls upon* Israel to accept the de jure applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[78] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and to the occupied Syrian Golan and to abide scrupulously by the provisions of the Convention, in particular article 49;

3. *Demands* complete cessation of the construction of the settlement in Jabal Abu-Ghneim and of all Israeli settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan;

4. *Stresses* the need for full implementation of Security Council resolution 904 (1994) of 18 March 1994, in which, among other things, the Council called upon Israel, the occupying Power, to continue to take and implement measures, including confiscation of arms, with the aim of preventing illegal acts of violence by Israeli settlers, and called for measures to be taken to guarantee the safety and protection of the Palestinian civilians in the occupied territory;

5. *Reiterates its call* for the prevention of illegal acts of violence by Israeli settlers, particularly in the light of recent developments;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/62

Adopted at the 82nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/550, para. 22),[81] by a recorded vote of 145 to 4, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi,

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[78] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[79] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[80] A/56/216.

[81] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine.

Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), United States of America

Abstaining: Nicaragua, Papua New Guinea

56/62. Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including those adopted at its tenth emergency special session, and the resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights,

Bearing in mind the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, the most recent of which are resolutions 904 (1994) of 18 March 1994, 1073 (1996) of 28 September 1996 and 1322 (2000) of 7 October 2000,

Having considered the reports of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories[82] and the reports of the Secretary-General,[83]

Taking note of the report of the Human Rights Inquiry Commission established by the Commission on Human Rights[84] and the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied by Israel since 1967,[85]

Aware of the responsibility of the international community to promote human rights and ensure respect for international law,

Reaffirming the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force,

Reaffirming also the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[86] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

Stressing the need for compliance with the Israeli-Palestinian agreements reached within the context of the Middle East peace process, as well as for the immediate and full implementation of the recommendations of the Sharm El-Sheikh Fact-Finding Committee (Mitchell report),

Noting that during the reporting period, the third agreed-upon phase of redeployment of the Israeli army has not been implemented, and that serious incursions into the areas under the full control of the Palestinian Authority have occurred,

Concerned about the continuing violation of the human rights of the Palestinian people by Israel, the occupying Power, including the use of collective punishment, closure of areas, annexation of land, establishment of settlements and the continuing actions by it designed to change the legal status, geographical nature and demographic composition of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem,

Deeply concerned by the tragic events that have occurred since 28 September 2000 and that have led to numerous deaths and injuries, mostly among Palestinians, the severe restrictions on the movement of persons and goods, and the widespread destruction, including of agricultural land,

Convinced of the positive impact of a temporary international or foreign presence in the Occupied Palestinian Territory for the safety and protection of the Palestinian people,

Convinced also of the need for third-party monitoring to help the parties to implement the recommendations of the Sharm El-Sheikh Fact-Finding Committee,

Expressing its appreciation to the countries that participated in the Temporary International Presence in Hebron for their positive contribution,

Convinced of the need for the full implementation of Security Council resolutions 904 (1994), 1073 (1996) and 1322 (2000),

1. *Determines* that all measures and actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, in violation of the relevant provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[86] and contrary to the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, are illegal and have no validity;

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[82] See A/56/428 and Add.1 and A/56/491.

[83] A/56/214–219.

[84] E/CN.4/2001/121.

[85] E/CN.4/2001/30.

[86] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

2. *Demands* that the measures and actions taken in violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949[86] cease immediately, including the practice of extrajudicial killings;

3. *Condemns* acts of violence, especially the excessive use of force by Israeli forces against Palestinian civilians, resulting in extensive loss of life, vast numbers of injuries and massive destruction;

4. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, cease all practices and actions which violate the human rights of the Palestinian people;

5. *Stresses* the need to preserve the territorial integrity of all the Occupied Palestinian Territory and to guarantee the freedom of movement of persons and goods within the Palestinian territory, including the removal of restrictions on movement into and from East Jerusalem and the freedom of movement to and from the outside world;

6. *Calls* for complete respect by Israel, the occupying Power, of all fundamental freedoms of the Palestinian people;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/63

Adopted at the 82nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/550, para. 22),[87] by a recorded vote of 147 to 2, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands

Abstaining: Micronesia (Federated States of), Nicaragua, United States of America

56/63. The occupied Syrian Golan

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories,[88]

Deeply concerned that the Syrian Golan, occupied since 1967, has been under continued Israeli military occupation,

Recalling Security Council resolution 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

Recalling also its previous relevant resolutions, the last of which was resolution 55/134 of 8 December 2000,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General submitted in pursuance of resolution 55/134,[89]

Recalling its previous relevant resolutions in which, inter alia, it called upon Israel to put an end to its occupation of the Arab territories,

Reaffirming once more the illegality of the decision of 14 December 1981 taken by Israel to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan, which has resulted in the effective annexation of that territory,

Reaffirming that the acquisition of territory by force is inadmissible under international law, including the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming also the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[90] to the occupied Syrian Golan,

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 237 (1967) of 14 June 1967,

Welcoming the convening in Madrid of the Peace Conference on the Middle East on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967 and 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973 aimed at the realization of a just, comprehensive and lasting peace, and expressing grave concern about the stalling of the peace process on all tracks,

1. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply with the relevant resolutions on the occupied Syrian Golan, in particular Security Council resolution 497 (1981), in which the Council, inter alia, decided that the Israeli decision to impose its

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[87] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine.

[88] See A/56/428 and Add.1 and A/56/491.

[89] A/56/219.

[90] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan was null and void and without international legal effect, and demanded that Israel, the occupying Power, rescind forthwith its decision;

2. *Also calls upon* Israel to desist from changing the physical character, demographic composition, institutional structure and legal status of the occupied Syrian Golan and in particular to desist from the establishment of settlements;

3. *Determines* that all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken or to be taken by Israel, the occupying Power, that purport to alter the character and legal status of the occupied Syrian Golan are null and void, constitute a flagrant violation of international law and of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[90] and have no legal effect;

4. *Calls upon* Israel to desist from imposing Israeli citizenship and Israeli identity cards on the Syrian citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan and from taking repressive measures against the population of the occupied Syrian Golan;

5. *Deplores* the violations by Israel of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949;

6. *Calls once again upon* Member States not to recognize any of the legislative or administrative measures and actions referred to above;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTIONS 56/64 A and B

56/64. Questions relating to information

Resolution A

Adopted at the 82nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/552, para. 10)[91]

A

INFORMATION IN THE SERVICE OF HUMANITY

The General Assembly,

Taking note of the comprehensive and important report of the Committee on Information,[92]

Also taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on questions relating to information,[93]

Urges all countries, organizations of the United Nations system as a whole and all others concerned, reaffirming their commitment to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and to the principles of freedom of the press and freedom of information, as well as to those of the independence, pluralism and diversity of the media, deeply concerned by the disparities existing between developed and developing countries and the consequences of every kind arising from those disparities that affect the capability of the public, private or other media and individuals in developing countries to disseminate information and communicate their views and their cultural and ethical values through endogenous cultural production, as well as to ensure the diversity of sources and their free access to information, and recognizing the call in this context for what in the United Nations and at various international forums has been termed "a new world information and communication order, seen as an evolving and continuous process":

(*a*) To cooperate and interact with a view to reducing existing disparities in information flows at all levels by increasing assistance for the development of communication infrastructures and capabilities in developing countries, with due regard for their needs and the priorities attached to such areas by those countries, and in order to enable them and the public, private or other media in developing countries to develop their own information and communication policies freely and independently and increase the participation of media and individuals in the communication process, and to ensure a free flow of information at all levels;

(*b*) To ensure for journalists the free and effective performance of their professional tasks and condemn resolutely all attacks against them;

(*c*) To provide support for the continuation and strengthening of practical training programmes for broadcasters and journalists from public, private and other media in developing countries;

(*d*) To enhance regional efforts and cooperation among developing countries, as well as cooperation between developed and developing countries, to strengthen communication capacities and to improve the media infrastructure and communication technology in the developing countries, especially in the areas of training and dissemination of information;

(*e*) To aim at, in addition to bilateral cooperation, providing all possible support and assistance to the developing countries and their media, public, private or other, with due regard to their interests and needs in the field of information and to action already adopted within the United Nations system, including:

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[91] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Committee on Information.

[92] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 21* (A/56/21); and ibid., *Supplement No. 21 A* (A/56/21/Add.1).

[93] A/56/411.

(i) The development of the human and technical resources that are indispensable for the improvement of information and communication systems in developing countries and support for the continuation and strengthening of practical training programmes, such as those already operating under both public and private auspices throughout the developing world;

(ii) The creation of conditions that will enable developing countries and their media, public, private or other, to have, by using their national and regional resources, the communication technology suited to their national needs, as well as the necessary programme material, especially for radio and television broadcasting;

(iii) Assistance in establishing and promoting telecommunication links at the subregional, regional and interregional levels, especially among developing countries;

(iv) The facilitation, as appropriate, of access by the developing countries to advanced communication technology available on the open market;

(*f*) To provide full support for the International Programme for the Development of Communication[94] of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which should support both public and private media.

Resolution B

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/552, para. 10)[95]

B

UNITED NATIONS PUBLIC INFORMATION POLICIES AND ACTIVITIES

The General Assembly,

Reiterating its decision to consolidate the role of the Committee on Information as its main subsidiary body mandated to make recommendations to it relating to the work of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat,

Concurring with the view of the Secretary-General that public information and communications should be placed at the heart of the strategic management of the United Nations, and that a culture of communications should permeate all levels of the Organization, as a means of fully informing the peoples of the world of the aims and activities of the United Nations, in accordance with the principles and purposes enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, in order to create broad-based global support for the United Nations,

Stressing that the primary mission of the Department of Public Information is to provide, through its outreach activities, accurate, impartial, comprehensive and timely information to the public on the tasks and responsibilities of the United Nations in order to strengthen international support for the activities of the Organization with the greatest transparency,

Expressing its concern that the gap in the information and communication technologies between the developed and the developing countries has continued to widen and that vast segments of the population in developing countries are not benefiting from the present information and technology revolution and, in this regard, underlining the necessity of rectifying the imbalances of the global information and technology revolution in order to make it more just, equitable and effective,

Recognizing that developments in the information and communication technology revolution open vast new opportunities for economic growth and social development and can play an important role in the eradication of poverty in developing countries and, at the same time, emphasizing that it also poses challenges and risks and could lead to further widening of disparities between and within countries,

Stating that the present developments and rapid changes in the field of information and communication technology have a tremendous impact on the functioning of the United Nations and the Department of Public Information in particular, which may necessitate suitable adjustments in the manner in which the mandate of the Department is implemented,

Noting other initiatives aimed at bridging the digital divide, including those by the World Bank, the International Telecommunication Union, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Development Programme, the Digital Opportunity Task Force of the Group of Eight Nations and the Group of 77 South Summit,

Recalling its resolutions 50/11 of 2 November 1995, 52/23 of 25 November 1997 and 54/64 of 6 December 1999 on multilingualism, and emphasizing the importance of making appropriate use of the official languages in the activities of the Department of Public Information, seeking to reduce the gap between the use of English and the other five official languages,

Stating that the Secretary-General should continue to enhance the effectiveness of the activities of the Department of Public Information,

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[94] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Twenty-first Session, Belgrade, 23 September to 28 October 1980*, vol. 1, *Resolutions*, sect. III.4, resolution 4/21.

[95] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Committee on Information.

Welcoming Armenia and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to membership in the Committee on Information,

I

Introduction

1. *Reaffirms* its resolution 13 (I) of 13 February 1946, in which it established the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, and all other relevant General Assembly resolutions related to the activities of the Department;

2. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General, in respect of the public information policies and activities of the United Nations, to continue to implement fully the recommendations contained in paragraph 2 of its resolution 48/44 B of 10 December 1993 and other mandates as established by the General Assembly;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of the medium-term plan for the period 2002–2005, as approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/234 of 23 December 2000, as a guideline that sets out the overall orientation of the public information programme for the Organization's goals through effective communication;

4. *Welcomes* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[96] the ministerial declaration adopted by the Economic and Social Council at the high-level segment of its substantive session of 2000[97] and the Secretary-General's millennium report,[98] which indicate clearly that there is a great amount of hope and concern in the field of information and communications;

5. *Calls upon* States, in accordance with their laws, to make every effort to prevent the use of the traditional media and new information and communication technologies that undermine legitimate Governments and democracy, fan ethnic strife and xenophobia, incite hatred and violence and contribute to any manifestations of extremism;

6. *Acknowledges* the important work carried out by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and its collaboration with news agencies and broadcasting organizations in developing countries in disseminating information on priority issues;

II

General activities of the Department of Public Information

7. *Reaffirms* that the Department of Public Information is the focal point for information policies of the United Nations and the primary news centre for information about the United Nations and its activities and those of the Secretary-General;

8. *Welcomes* the development of the United Nations News Service by the Department of Public Information, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to exert all efforts to ensure that publications and other information services of the Secretariat, including the United Nations web site and the United Nations News Service, contain comprehensive, objective and equitable information about the issues before the Organization and that they maintain editorial independence, impartiality, accuracy and full consistency with resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly;

9. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the reorientation of United Nations activities in the field of public information and communications,[99] encourages him to continue the reorientation exercise, while stressing the need to take into account the views of Member States, and requests him to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its twenty-fourth session;

10. *Emphasizes* that, through its reorientation, the Department of Public Information should maintain and improve its activities in the areas of special interest to developing countries and, where appropriate, other countries with special needs, including countries in transition, and that such reorientation contributes to bridging the existing gap between the developing and the developed countries in the crucial field of public information and communications;

11. *Concurs* with the view of the Secretary-General that the development of a strategic vision linking all the components of the Secretariat with emphasis on planning cooperation within the Organization constitutes the central element for continuing reorientation, and encourages the Department of Public Information to maintain, improve and expand its activities in the areas of special interest to developing countries;

12. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to strengthen the cooperation between the Department of Public Information and other departments of the Secretariat, in particular those dealing with priority issues;

13. *Welcomes* the initiatives that have been taken by the Department of Public Information to strengthen the public information system of the United Nations, and, in this regard, stresses the importance of a coherent and results-oriented approach being undertaken by the United Nations, the specialized agencies and the programmes and funds of the United Nations system involved in public information activities and the provision of resources for their implementation, and that this be done taking into account feedback from Member States on the relevance and effectiveness of its programme delivery;

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[96] See resolution 55/2.

[97] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/55/3/Rev.1), chap. III, para. 17.

[98] A/54/2000.

[99] A/AC.198/2001/2.

14. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to continue to ensure the greatest possible access for United Nations guided tours and to ensure that displays in public areas are kept as informative, up-to-date, relevant and as technologically innovative as possible;

15. *Recognizes* the need for the Department of Public Information to increase its outreach activities in all regions, requests the Secretary-General to include, in his next report on the reorientation of United Nations activities in the field of public information and communications, an analysis of the present reach and scope of the Department's activities, identifying the widest possible spectrum of audiences and geographical areas which are not covered adequately and which may require special attention, including the appropriate means of communication, and bearing in mind local language requirements;

III

Multilingualism and public information

16. *Emphasizes* the importance of ensuring the full, equitable treatment of all the official languages of the United Nations in all activities of the Department of Public Information, and stresses the importance of fully implementing its resolution 52/214 of 22 December 1997, in section C of which it requested the Secretary-General to ensure that the texts of all new public documents in all six official languages, and information materials of the United Nations, are made available through the United Nations web site daily and are accessible to Member States without delay;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit updated figures on the use and command of all six official languages by the staff of the Department of Public Information to the Committee on Information at its twenty-fourth session;

18. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Department of Public Information has appropriate staffing capacity in all official languages of the United Nations to undertake all its activities;

19. *Reminds* the Secretary-General of the need to include in future programme budget proposals for the Department of Public Information the importance of using all six official languages in its activities;

20. *Takes note* of the Internet Publishing Guidelines,[100] and in this regard requests the Department of Public Information and the Working Group on Internet Matters to include in these guidelines specific recommendations towards achieving the goal of making all documentation on the web sites available in all six official languages of the Organization;

IV

Promotional campaigns

21. *Recalls* its resolutions 53/202 of 17 December 1998 and 54/254 of 15 March 2000, concerning the designation of the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly as the Millennium Assembly of the United Nations and the convening, as an integral part of the Millennium Assembly, of the Millennium Summit of the United Nations, takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the millennium promotional campaign,[101] and commends the Department of Public Information for the important role that it played in implementing the promotional campaign;

22. *Appreciates* the Secretary-General's initiatives in promoting 2001 as the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations and, mindful of the importance of drawing international attention to the impact that dialogue among civilizations could have on promoting mutual understanding, tolerance and peaceful coexistence, encourages the Secretary-General to intensify the promotional campaign through the use of as many broadcasters and languages, in addition to the official languages, as possible, to spread coverage, with special emphasis on publicizing the findings of the Group of Eminent Persons for the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its twenty-fourth session;

23. *Recalls* paragraph 10 of General Assembly resolution 55/47 of 29 November 2000, entitled "International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, 2001–2010", and, in this context, encourages the Department of Public Information to undertake specific dissemination of information on a culture of peace, keeping in mind the ongoing Decade;

24. *Recognizes* the need for enhanced publicity through a targeted strategy to be developed by the Department of Public Information on the special sessions and conferences, including on the least developed countries, children, illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS), racism, the environment, financing for development, sustainable development, and ageing, which will address issues crucial to the international community, particularly the developing countries, as well as on the ongoing Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and requests the Secretary-General to take the necessary action in this regard and report to the Committee on Information at its twenty-fourth session in the context of his report on the reorientation of United Nations activities in the field of public information and communications;

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[100] See ST/AI/2001/5.

[101] A/AC.198/2000/10.

25. *Recalls* its resolutions 53/59 B of 3 December 1998 and 54/82 B of 6 December 1999, and urges the Department of Public Information to take the necessary measures, through the provision of relevant and objective information, towards achieving the major objectives set forth in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[102] and to publicize the activities of the open-ended working group established for that purpose;

26. *Also recalls* its resolutions concerning the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, in particular resolutions 51/138 B of 13 December 1996 and 52/172 of 16 December 1997, and encourages the Department of Public Information, in cooperation with the countries concerned and with the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to continue to take appropriate measures to enhance world public awareness of the consequences of that disaster;

27. *Further recalls* its resolution 55/44 of 27 November 2000, concerning international cooperation and coordination for the human and ecological rehabilitation of the Semipalatinsk region of Kazakhstan, which has been affected by nuclear tests, and encourages the Department of Public Information, in cooperation with relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to take appropriate measures to enhance world public awareness of the problems and needs of the Semipalatinsk region;

V

Bridging the digital divide

28. *Commends* the Secretary-General for the establishment of the United Nations Information Technology Service, the Health InterNetwork and the Information and Communications Technology Task Force with a view to bridging the digital divide and as a response to the continuing gulf between developed and developing countries, welcomes the contribution of the Department of Public Information in publicizing the efforts of the Secretary-General in closing the digital divide as a means of spurring economic growth and as a response to the continuing gulf between developed and developing countries, and, in this context, requests the Department further to enhance its role;

VI

United Nations information centres

29. *Stresses* that the United Nations information centres and information components should continue to play a significant role in disseminating information about the work of the Organization to the peoples of the world, in particular in the areas of economic and social development;

30. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Integration of United Nations information centres with field offices of the United Nations Development Programme: implementation of the views of host Governments",[103] welcomes the action taken by the Department of Public Information to implement the views of those host Governments as expressed in their replies to the questionnaire provided by the Secretariat, and requests the Secretary-General to take the necessary steps for the continued implementation of those views and to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its twenty-fourth session;

31. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its twenty-fourth session on any possible proposal to continue, if feasible and on a case-by-case basis, the integration policy in a cost-effective manner, while maintaining the operational and functional independence of United Nations information centres, taking into account the views of the host countries to ensure that the information functions and the autonomy of United Nations information centres are not adversely affected, to meet the policy's stated objective of improving the provision of information by the United Nations;

32. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report on the reorientation of United Nations activities in the field of public information and communications, to be submitted to the Committee on Information at its twenty-fourth session, information on the involvement of the Department of Public Information in the context of the implementation of his recommendations on the establishment of United Nations houses;

33. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the equitable disbursement of resources to United Nations information centres,[104] emphasizes that further efforts are needed to ensure the most equitable disbursement possible of resources to United Nations information centres, and stresses that particular attention should be paid to the concerns of developing countries and, where appropriate, other countries with special needs, including countries in transition;

34. *Emphasizes* that the United Nations information centres, as the "field voice" of the Department of Public Information, should promote public awareness and mobilize support for the work of the United Nations at the local level, and recognizes the appeal made by the Secretary-General to the host Governments of United Nations information centres to facilitate the work of the centres in their countries by providing rent-free or rent-subsidized office space, while taking into account the

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[102] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

[103] A/AC.198/2001/4.

[104] A/AC.198/2001/5.

economic condition of the host Governments and bearing in mind that such support should not be a substitute for the full allocation of financial requirements for the United Nations information centres in the context of the programme budget of the United Nations;

35. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations information centres should continue to publicize United Nations activities and accomplishments in the areas of economic and social development, poverty eradication, debt relief, health, education, the elimination of illiteracy, women's rights, children's rights, the plight of children in armed conflict, the sexual exploitation of children, the eradication of drug trafficking, environmental issues, peace and security, and other relevant issues;

36. *Also reaffirms* the role of the General Assembly in relation to the opening of new United Nations information centres, invites the Secretary-General to make such recommendations as he may consider necessary regarding the establishment and location of such centres, and, in this regard, welcomes the requests by the Governments of Croatia, Gabon, Guinea, Haiti, Jamaica and Kyrgyzstan for information centres or information components;

37. *Takes note* of the efforts by some United Nations information centres to develop their own web pages in local languages, and, in this respect, encourages the Department of Public Information to provide resources and technical facilities, in particular to United Nations information centres whose web pages are not yet operational, to develop web pages in the respective local languages of their host countries, and encourages host Governments to respond to the needs of United Nations information centres;

VII

Role of the Department of Public Information in United Nations peacekeeping

38. *Takes note with appreciation* of the efforts of the Secretary-General to strengthen the public information capacity of the Department of Public Information for the establishment and day-to-day [illegible]oning of the information components of peacekeeping and other field operations of the United Nations, and requests the Secretariat to continue to ensure the involvement of the Department from the planning stage of such future operations through interdepartmental consultations and coordination with other departments of the Secretariat, in particular with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, and to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its twenty-fourth session, including any possible proposals for enhancing the role of the Department of Public Information in this regard;

39. *Notes* the ongoing discussion on the report of the Secretary-General[105] on resource requirements for implementation of the report of the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations, and, in this regard, stresses that the Department of Public Information should continue its efforts to strengthen its capacity to contribute significantly to the functioning of information components in United Nations peacekeeping operations, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its twenty-fourth session in the report requested in paragraph 38 above;

40. *Stresses* the importance of enhancing the public information capacity of the Department of Public Information in the field of peacekeeping operations and its role in the selection process of spokespersons for United Nations peacekeeping operations or missions, and, in this regard, encourages the Department to second spokespersons who have the necessary skills to fulfil the tasks of the operations or missions, and to consider views expressed, especially by host countries, when appropriate, in this regard;

VIII

Dag Hammarskjöld Library

41. *Takes note* of the continuing efforts of the Secretary-General to make the Dag Hammarskjöld Library a virtual library with world outreach, making United Nations information and other acquired materials accessible electronically to a growing number of readers and users, and, at the same time, requests the Secretary-General to enrich on a multilingual basis the stock of books and journals in the Library, including publications on peace and security and development-related issues, to ensure that the Library continues to be a broadly accessible resource for information about the United Nations and its activities;

42. *Encourages* the Dag Hammarskjöld Library to alert its clientele, including Member States through their missions, for example, via electronic mail, of any new publications and collections;

43. *Welcomes* the training courses conducted by the Dag Hammarskjöld Library for the representatives of Member States and Secretariat staff on Cyberseek, web search, the Intranet, United Nations documentation, UN-I-QUE and the Official Document System of the United Nations, and, in that regard, encourages the Library to further develop such courses;

44. *Also welcomes* the role of the Department of Public Information in fostering increased collaboration among libraries of the United Nations system, particularly in establishing one central system-wide online catalogue that will allow for the searching of the bibliographic records of all print holdings of all United Nations system libraries and the searching of all electronic holdings and electronic databases maintained by all United Nations system libraries, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its twenty-fourth session in the context of his report on the reorientation of United Nations activities in the field of public information and communications;

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[105] A/55/507 and Add.1.

45. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to ensure the continued development of the integrated library system in the Dag Hammarskjöld Library, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its twenty-fourth session in the context of his report on the reorientation of United Nations activities in the field of public information and communications;

IX

Traditional means of communication: radio, television and publications

46. *Welcomes* the progress report[106] and the final report[107] of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the pilot project on the development of an international radio broadcasting capacity for the United Nations, and also welcomes the extensive network of partnerships established with local, national and regional broadcasters in Member States, and concurs with the Secretary-General that the project has contributed to the overall goal of the Department of Public Information of generating understanding about the United Nations among millions of listeners across the globe and has been one of the more successful examples of the reorientation of the Department;

47. *Decides*, building upon the success of the pilot project as well as the scope of its programme distribution and established partnerships, to expand the international radio broadcasting capacity of the United Nations in all six official languages;

48. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convey the necessary justification of the resource requirements, including information on the possibility of extrabudgetary financing and/or the redeployment of resources, concerning the expansion of the international radio broadcasting capacity for the biennium 2002–2003 for consideration by the relevant committees of the General Assembly;

49. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the United Nations international radio broadcasting capacity to the Committee on Information at its twenty-fifth session, including information that can be obtained from the local, national and regional radio partners about the estimated number of listeners reached, in order for the Committee to decide on the future of this capacity;

50. *Stresses* that radio remains one of the most cost-effective and far-reaching traditional media available to the Department of Public Information and an important instrument in United Nations activities, such as development and peacekeeping, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 48/44 B;

51. *Takes note* of the efforts under way by the Department of Public Information to disseminate programmes directly to broadcasting stations all over the world in the six official languages as well as in other languages, and, in that regard, stresses the need for impartiality and objectivity concerning information activities of the United Nations;

52. *Requests* the Department of Public Information, in view of the need for efficiency and for a wider dissemination of information services of the United Nations Radio, to enhance where necessary the use of non-official languages to meet the information needs of its audiences;

53. *Encourages* the Department of Public Information to continue to include in its radio and television programming specific programmes addressing the needs of developing nations;

54. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Department of Public Information for the ongoing programme for broadcasters and journalists from developing countries and countries in transition, and calls for its further continuation along the lines of its current implementation, while including a larger number of trainees from those countries;

55. *Emphasizes* that all publications of the Department of Public Information, in accordance with existing mandates, should fulfil an identifiable need, should not duplicate other publications of the United Nations system and should be produced in a cost-effective manner;

X

United Nations web site

56. *Notes*, while appreciating current efforts, that there is a need for the Secretary-General to continue to develop proposals for the multilingual development, maintenance and enrichment of the United Nations web site in order to lead ultimately to achieving full parity among the official languages of the United Nations, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its twenty-fourth session;

57. *Requests* the Secretary-General in the meantime and until a decision has been taken on the proposals to be submitted for the multilingual development, maintenance and enrichment of the United Nations web site, to ensure, to the extent possible, while maintaining an up-to-date and accurate web site, the equitable distribution of financial and human resources within the Department of Public Information allocated to the United Nations web site among all official languages on a continuous basis;

58. *Requests* the Department of Public Information, as the manager of the Organization's web site, to take the lead in

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[106] A/AC.198/2001/7.

[107] A/AC.198/2001/10.

developing a proposal for the establishment of one central Internet portal that will encompass all web sites of the United Nations system, preferably through system-wide cooperation, and that will allow for the search and retrieval of information from all web sites in the United Nations system from one central search facility, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its twenty-fourth session in the context of his report on the reorientation of United Nations activities in the field of public information and communications;

59. *Stresses* the importance of access to United Nations Treaty Collection and United Nations parliamentary documentation for the public;

60. *Commends* the efforts of the Information Technology Services Division of the Office of Central Support Services in ensuring that the required technological infrastructure is in place to accommodate the imminent linkage of the Official Document System to the United Nations web site;

61. *Recognizes* the far-reaching impact that the linking of the Official Document System with the United Nations web site will have in furthering the goals of the Organization by making all parliamentary documents in the six official languages publicly available, and stresses that the integration of the Official Document System with the United Nations web site will represent one of the steps towards significantly enhancing the multilingual nature of the United Nations web site and will lead to efficiencies in all Secretariat departments;

62. *Takes note with interest* of the electronic mail-based news alert service distributed worldwide by the Department of Public Information, and emphasizes that extra care needs to be taken to ensure that news-breaking stories and news alerts are accurate, impartial and free of any bias;

63. *Encourages* the Secretary-General, through the Department of Public Information, to continue to take full advantage of recent developments in information technology, including the Internet, in order to improve, in a cost-effective manner, the expeditious dissemination of information on the United Nations, in accordance with the priorities established by the General Assembly and taking into account the linguistic diversity of the Organization;

64. *Encourages* an increase in the number of programmes of United Nations Radio, in all available languages, on the United Nations web site;

XI

Final remarks

65. *Recognizes* the need for constructive interaction between the management of the Department of Public Information and members of the Committee on Information, and requests the Department to arrange, in consultation with the Chairman, informal meetings with the members of the Committee every three months to discuss the ongoing work of the Department, and in this regard requests the Department, in preparation for these meetings, to invite members of the Committee, no later than two weeks prior to their convening, to propose topics for discussion;

66. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its twenty-fourth session and to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the activities of the Department of Public Information and on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the present resolution;

67. *Requests* the Committee on Information to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

68. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Questions relating to information".

RESOLUTION 56/65

Adopted at the 82nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/553, para. 7),[108] by a recorded vote of 149 to none, with 6 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: France, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

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[108] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

56/65. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations[109] and the action taken by the Special Committee in respect of that information,

Having also examined the report of the Secretary-General,[110]

Recalling its resolution 1970 (XVIII) of 16 December 1963, in which it requested the Special Committee to study the information transmitted to the Secretary-General in accordance with Article 73 *e* of the Charter and to take such information fully into account in examining the situation with regard to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Recalling also its resolution 55/137 of 8 December 2000, in which it requested the Special Committee to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under resolution 1970 (XVIII),

Stressing the importance of timely transmission by the administering Powers of adequate information under Article 73 *e* of the Charter, in particular in relation to the preparation by the Secretariat of the working papers on the Territories concerned,

1. *Approves* the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations;[109]

2. *Reaffirms* that, in the absence of a decision by the General Assembly itself that a Non-Self-Governing Territory has attained a full measure of self-government in terms of Chapter XI of the Charter, the administering Power concerned should continue to transmit information under Article 73 *e* of the Charter with respect to that Territory;

3. *Requests* the administering Powers concerned to transmit or continue to transmit to the Secretary-General the information prescribed in Article 73 *e* of the Charter, as well as the fullest possible information on political and constitutional developments in the Territories concerned, within a maximum period of six months following the expiration of the administrative year in those Territories;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that adequate information is drawn from all available published sources in connection with the preparation of the working papers relating to the Territories concerned;

5. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under General Assembly resolution 1970 (XVIII), in accordance with established procedures.

RESOLUTION 56/66

Adopted at the 82nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/554, para. 9),[111] by a recorded vote of 147 to 2, with 5 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United States of America

Abstaining: France, Georgia, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

56/66. Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories",

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[109] A/56/23 (Part II), chap. VIII. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 23*.

[110] A/56/67.

[111] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the item,[112]

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, as well as all other relevant General Assembly resolutions, including, in particular, resolutions 46/181 of 19 December 1991 and 55/146 of 8 December 2000,

Reaffirming the solemn obligation of the administering Powers under the Charter of the United Nations to promote the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the inhabitants of the Territories under their administration and to protect the human and natural resources of those Territories against abuses,

Reaffirming also that any economic or other activity that has a negative impact on the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and on the exercise of their right to self-determination in conformity with the Charter and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) is contrary to the purposes and principles of the Charter,

Reaffirming further that the natural resources are the heritage of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the indigenous populations,

Aware of the special circumstances of the geographical location, size and economic conditions of each Territory, and bearing in mind the need to promote the economic stability, diversification and strengthening of the economy of each Territory,

Conscious of the particular vulnerability of the small Territories to natural disasters and environmental degradation,

Conscious also that foreign economic investment, when done in collaboration with the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and in accordance with their wishes, could make a valid contribution to the socio-economic development of the Territories and could also make a valid contribution to the exercise of their right to self-determination,

Concerned about any activities aimed at exploiting the natural and human resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to the detriment of the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories,

Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, the Pacific Islands Forum and the Caribbean Community,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, as well as their right to the enjoyment of their natural resources and their right to dispose of those resources in their best interest;

2. *Affirms* the value of foreign economic investment undertaken in collaboration with the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and in accordance with their wishes in order to make a valid contribution to the socio-economic development of the Territories;

3. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Powers under the Charter to promote the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and reaffirms the legitimate rights of their peoples over their natural resources;

4. *Reaffirms its concern* about any activities aimed at the exploitation of the natural resources that are the heritage of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the indigenous populations, in the Caribbean, the Pacific and other regions, as well as their human resources, to the detriment of their interests, and in such a way as to deprive them of their right to dispose of those resources;

5. *Affirms* the need to avoid any economic and other activities which adversely affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

6. *Calls once again upon* all Governments that have not yet done so to take, in accordance with the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 2621 (XXV) of 12 October 1970, legislative, administrative or other measures in respect of their nationals and the bodies corporate under their jurisdiction that own and operate enterprises in the Non-Self-Governing Territories that are detrimental to the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories, in order to put an end to such enterprises;

7. *Reiterates* that the damaging exploitation and plundering of the marine and other natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, in violation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, is a threat to the integrity and prosperity of those Territories;

8. *Invites* all Governments and organizations of the United Nations system to take all possible measures to ensure that the permanent sovereignty of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories over their natural resources is fully respected and safeguarded;

9. *Urges* the administering Powers concerned to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to their natural resources and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources, and requests the

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[112] A/56/23 (Part II), chap. V. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 23*.

administering Powers to take all necessary steps to protect the property rights of the peoples of those Territories;

10. *Calls upon* the administering Powers concerned to ensure that no discriminatory working conditions prevail in the Territories under their administration and to promote in each Territory a fair system of wages applicable to all the inhabitants without any discrimination;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue, through all means at his disposal, to inform world public opinion of any activity that affects the exercise of the right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination in conformity with the Charter and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV);

12. *Appeals* to the mass media, trade unions and non-governmental organizations, as well as individuals, to continue their efforts to promote the economic well-being of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

13. *Decides* to follow the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories so as to ensure that all economic activities in those Territories are aimed at strengthening and diversifying their economies in the interest of their peoples, including the indigenous populations, and at promoting the economic and financial viability of those Territories;

14. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to examine this question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session.

RESOLUTION 56/67

Adopted at the 82nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/555, para. 7),[113] by a recorded vote of 106 to none, with 50 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia

56/67. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations",

Having also considered the report of the Secretary-General on the item,[114]

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the item,[115]

Recalling its resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and the resolutions of the Special Committee, as well as other relevant resolutions and decisions, including in particular Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/30 of 28 July 2000,

Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, the Pacific Islands Forum and the Caribbean Community,

Conscious of the need to facilitate the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in resolution 1514 (XV),

Noting that the large majority of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories are small island Territories,

Welcoming the assistance extended to Non-Self-Governing Territories by certain specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme,

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[113] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[114] A/56/65.

[115] A/56/23 (Part II), chap. VII. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 23.*

Also welcoming the current participation in the capacity of observers of those Non-Self-Governing Territories which are associate members of regional commissions in the world conferences in the economic and social sphere, subject to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions, including resolutions and decisions of the Assembly and the Special Committee on specific Territories, and in the special session of the General Assembly on the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, held at Headquarters from 30 June to 2 July 1999,

Noting that only some specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system have been involved in providing assistance for Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Stressing that, because the development options of the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories are limited, there are special challenges to planning for and implementing sustainable development and that those Territories will be constrained in meeting the challenges without the continued cooperation and assistance of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system,

Stressing also the importance of securing the necessary resources for funding expanded assistance programmes for the peoples concerned and the need to enlist the support of all major funding institutions within the United Nations system in that regard,

Reaffirming the mandates of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to take all appropriate measures, within their respective spheres of competence, to ensure the full implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions,

Expressing its appreciation to the Organization of African Unity, the Pacific Islands Forum, the Caribbean Community and other regional organizations for the continued cooperation and assistance they have extended to the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in this regard,

Expressing its conviction that closer contacts and consultations between and among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and regional organizations help to facilitate the effective formulation of assistance programmes to the peoples concerned,

Mindful of the imperative need to keep under continuous review the activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in the implementation of the various United Nations decisions relating to decolonization,

Bearing in mind the extremely fragile economies of the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories and their vulnerability to natural disasters, such as hurricanes, cyclones and sea-level rise, and recalling the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/139 of 8 December 2000 on the implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[114]

2. *Recommends* that all States intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to ensure the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

3. *Reaffirms* that the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system should continue to be guided by the relevant resolutions of the United Nations in their efforts to contribute to the implementation of the Declaration and all other relevant General Assembly resolutions;

4. *Reaffirms also* that the recognition by the General Assembly, the Security Council and other United Nations organs of the legitimacy of the aspirations of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to exercise their right to self-determination entails, as a corollary, the extension of all appropriate assistance to those peoples;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* to those specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that have continued to cooperate with the United Nations and the regional and subregional organizations in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and requests all the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to implement the relevant provisions of those resolutions;

6. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and international and regional organizations to examine and review conditions in each Territory so as to take appropriate measures to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of the Territories;

7. *Urges* those specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system that have not yet provided assistance for Non-Self-Governing Territories to do so as soon as possible;

8. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system and regional organizations to strengthen existing measures of

support and formulate appropriate programmes of assistance to the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories, within the framework of their respective mandates, in order to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of those Territories;

9. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system concerned to provide information on:

(*a*) Environmental problems facing the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

(*b*) The impact of natural disasters, such as hurricanes and volcanic eruptions, and other environmental problems, such as beach and coastal erosion and droughts, on those Territories;

(*c*) Ways and means to assist the Territories to fight drug trafficking, money-laundering and other illegal and criminal activities;

(*d*) The illegal exploitation of the marine resources of the Territories and the need to utilize those resources for the benefit of the peoples of the Territories;

10. *Recommends* that the executive heads of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system formulate, with the active cooperation of the regional organizations concerned, concrete proposals for the full implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and submit the proposals to their governing and legislative organs;

11. *Also recommends* that the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system continue to review at the regular meetings of their governing bodies the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

12. *Welcomes* the continuing initiative exercised by the United Nations Development Programme in maintaining close liaison among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and in providing assistance for the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

13. *Encourages* Non-Self-Governing Territories to take steps to establish and/or strengthen disaster preparedness and management institutions and policies;

14. *Requests* the administering Powers concerned to facilitate, when appropriate, the participation of appointed and elected representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the relevant meetings and conferences of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions, including resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples on specific Territories, so that the Territories may benefit from the related activities of those agencies and organizations;

15. *Recommends* that all Governments intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system of which they are members to accord priority to the question of providing assistance for the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to assist the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in working out appropriate measures for implementing the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and to prepare for submission to the relevant bodies, with the assistance of those agencies and organizations, a report on the action taken in implementation of the relevant resolutions, including the present resolution, since the circulation of his previous report;

17. *Commends* the Economic and Social Council for its debate and resolution on this question, and requests it to continue to consider, in consultation with the Special Committee, appropriate measures for coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in implementing the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

18. *Requests* the specialized agencies to report periodically to the Secretary-General on the implementation of the present resolution;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to the governing bodies of the appropriate specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations so that those bodies may take the necessary measures to implement the resolution, and also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution;

20. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session.

RESOLUTION 56/68

Adopted at the 82nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/556, para. 6)[116]

56/68. Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/140 of 8 December 2000,

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[116] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Argentina, China, Cuba, Egypt, Ghana, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and United Republic of Tanzania.

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General on offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories,[117] prepared pursuant to its resolution 845 (IX) of 22 November 1954,

Conscious of the importance of promoting the educational advancement of the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Strongly convinced that the continuation and expansion of offers of scholarships is essential in order to meet the increasing need of students from Non-Self-Governing Territories for educational and training assistance, and considering that students in those Territories should be encouraged to avail themselves of such offers,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[117]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States that have made scholarships available to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories;

3. *Invites* all States to make or continue to make generous offers of study and training facilities to the inhabitants of those Territories that have not yet attained self-government or independence and, wherever possible, to provide travel funds to prospective students;

4. *Urges* the administering Powers to take effective measures to ensure the widespread and continuous dissemination in the Territories under their administration of information relating to offers of study and training facilities made by States and to provide all the necessary facilities to enable students to avail themselves of such offers;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Draws the attention* of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/69

Adopted at the 82nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/557, para. 20)[118]

56/69. Question of Western Sahara

The General Assembly,

Having considered in depth the question of Western Sahara,

Reaffirming the inalienable right of all peoples to self-determination and independence, in accordance with the principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Recalling its resolution 55/141 of 8 December 2000,

Recalling also the agreement in principle given on 30 August 1988 by the Kingdom of Morocco and the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguia el-Hamra y de Rio de Oro to the proposals of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Chairman of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity in the context of their joint mission of good offices,

Recalling further Security Council resolutions 658 (1990) of 27 June 1990 and 690 (1991) of 29 April 1991, by which the Council approved the settlement plan for Western Sahara,[119]

Reaffirming the responsibility of the United Nations towards the people of Western Sahara, as provided for in the settlement plan,

Recalling all Security Council and General Assembly resolutions relating to the question of Western Sahara,

Noting with satisfaction the entry into force of the ceasefire in accordance with the proposal of the Secretary-General, and stressing the importance it attaches to the maintenance of the ceasefire as an integral part of the settlement plan,

Noting also with satisfaction the agreements[120] reached by the two parties during their private direct talks aimed at the implementation of the settlement plan, and stressing the importance it attaches to a full, fair and faithful implementation of the settlement plan and the agreements aimed at its implementation,

Noting that, despite the progress achieved, difficulties remain in the implementation of the settlement plan which must be overcome,

Taking note of the resolutions of the Security Council relating to the question, including resolution 1359 (2001) of 29 June 2001,

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[117] A/56/88.

[118] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[119] See S/21360 and S/22464 and Corr.1.

[120] S/1997/742 and Add.1.

Taking note also of the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy in search of a mutually acceptable political solution on the question of Western Sahara,

Welcoming the acceptance by the two parties of the detailed modalities for the implementation of the Secretary-General's package of measures relating to the identification of voters and the appeals process,[121]

Having examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[122]

Having also examined the report of the Secretary-General,[123]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[123]

2. *Commends* the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy for their outstanding efforts and the two parties for the spirit of cooperation they have shown in the support they provide for those efforts;

3. *Takes note* of the agreements[120] reached between the Kingdom of Morocco and the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguia el-Hamra y de Rio de Oro for the implementation of the settlement plan[119] during their private direct talks under the auspices of James Baker III, the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General, and urges the parties to implement those agreements fully and in good faith;

4. *Urges* the two parties to continue their cooperation with the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy, as well as with his Special Representative, and to refrain from undertaking anything that would undermine the implementation of the settlement plan and the agreements reached for its implementation and the continued efforts of the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy;

5. *Calls upon* the two parties to cooperate fully with the Secretary-General, his Personal Envoy and his Special Representative in implementing the various phases of the settlement plan and in overcoming the difficulties that remain despite the progress so far achieved;

6. *Encourages* the parties to continue their discussions under the auspices of the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General with a view to reaching a mutually acceptable agreement on the question of Western Sahara;

7. *Urges* the two parties to implement faithfully and loyally the Secretary-General's package of measures relating to the identification of voters and the appeals process;

8. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the United Nations towards the people of Western Sahara, as provided for in the settlement plan;

9. *Reiterates its support* for further efforts of the Secretary-General for the organization and supervision by the United Nations, in cooperation with the Organization of African Unity, of a referendum for self-determination of the people of Western Sahara that is impartial and free of all constraints, in conformity with Security Council resolutions 658 (1990) and 690 (1991), by which the Council approved the settlement plan for Western Sahara;

10. *Takes note* of the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, including resolutions 1349 (2001) of 27 April 2001 and 1359 (2001) of 29 June 2001;

11. *Urges* the parties to solve the problem of the fate of people unaccounted for, and calls on the parties to abide by their obligations under international humanitarian law to release without further delay all those held since the start of the conflict;

12. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to consider the situation in Western Sahara, bearing in mind the positive ongoing implementation of the settlement plan, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

13. *Invites* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/70

Adopted at the 82nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/557, para. 20)[124]

56/70. Question of New Caledonia

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of New Caledonia,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to New Caledonia,[125]

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[121] See S/1999/483/Add.1.

[122] A/56/23 (Part III), chap. IX. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 23.*

[123] A/56/159.

[124] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

Reaffirming the right of peoples to self-determination as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960,

Noting the importance of the positive measures being pursued in New Caledonia by the French authorities, in cooperation with all sectors of the population, to promote political, economic and social development in the Territory, including measures in the area of environmental protection and action with respect to drug abuse and trafficking, in order to provide a framework for its peaceful progress to self-determination,

Noting also, in this context, the importance of equitable economic and social development, as well as continued dialogue among the parties involved in New Caledonia in the preparation of the act of self-determination of New Caledonia,

Noting with satisfaction the intensification of contacts between New Caledonia and neighbouring countries of the South Pacific region,

1. *Welcomes* the significant developments that have taken place in New Caledonia as exemplified by the signing of the Nouméa Accord of 5 May 1998 between the representatives of New Caledonia and the Government of France;[126]

2. *Urges* all parties involved, in the interest of all of the people of New Caledonia, to maintain, in the framework of the Nouméa Accord, their dialogue in a spirit of harmony;

3. *Notes* the relevant provisions of the Nouméa Accord aimed at taking more broadly into account the Kanak identity in the political and social organization of New Caledonia, and also those provisions of the Accord relating to control of immigration and protection of local employment;

4. *Also notes* the relevant provisions of the Nouméa Accord to the effect that New Caledonia may become a member or an associate member of certain international organizations, such as international organizations in the Pacific region, the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the International Labour Organization, in accordance with their regulations;

5. *Further notes* the agreement between the signatories of the Nouméa Accord that the progress made in the emancipation process shall be brought to the attention of the United Nations;

6. *Welcomes* the fact that the administering Power invited to New Caledonia, at the time the new institutions were established, a mission of information which comprised representatives of countries of the Pacific region;

7. *Calls upon* the administering Power to transmit information regarding the political, economic and social situation of New Caledonia to the Secretary-General;

8. *Invites* all parties involved to continue to promote a framework for the peaceful progress of the Territory towards an act of self-determination in which all options are open and which would safeguard the rights of all New Caledonians according to the letter and the spirit of the Nouméa Accord, which is based on the principle that it is for the populations of New Caledonia to choose how to control their destiny;

9. *Welcomes* measures that have been taken to strengthen and diversify the New Caledonian economy in all fields, and encourages further such measures in accordance with the spirit of the Matignon and Nouméa Accords;

10. *Also welcomes* the importance attached by the parties to the Matignon and Nouméa Accords to greater progress in housing, employment, training, education and health care in New Caledonia;

11. *Acknowledges* the contribution of the Melanesian Cultural Centre to the protection of the indigenous culture of New Caledonia;

12. *Notes* the positive initiatives aimed at protecting the natural environment of New Caledonia, notably the "Zonéco" operation designed to map and evaluate marine resources within the economic zone of New Caledonia;

13. *Acknowledges* the close links between New Caledonia and the peoples of the South Pacific and the positive actions being taken by the French and territorial authorities to facilitate the further development of those links, including the development of closer relations with the countries members of the Pacific Islands Forum;

14. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the accession by New Caledonia to the status of observer in the Pacific Islands Forum, continuing high-level visits to New Caledonia by delegations from countries of the Pacific region and high-level visits by delegations from New Caledonia to countries members of the Pacific Islands Forum;

15. *Decides* to keep under continuous review the process unfolding in New Caledonia as a result of the signing of the Nouméa Accord;

16. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to examine the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territory of New Caledonia and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session.

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[125] A/56/23 (Part II), chap. IX. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 23.*

[126] A/AC.109/2114, annex.

RESOLUTION 56/71

Adopted at the 82nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/557, para. 20)[127]

56/71. Question of Tokelau

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of Tokelau,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the question of Tokelau,[128]

Recalling the solemn declaration on the future status of Tokelau, delivered by the *Ulu-o-Tokelau* (the highest authority on Tokelau) on 30 July 1994, which states that an act of self-determination in Tokelau is now under active consideration, together with the constitution of a self-governing Tokelau, and that the present preference of Tokelau is for a status of free association with New Zealand,

Recalling also its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to Non-Self-Governing Territories, in particular General Assembly resolution 55/143 of 8 December 2000,

Recalling further the emphasis placed in the solemn declaration on the terms of Tokelau's special relationship with New Zealand, including the expectation that the form of help that Tokelau could continue to expect from New Zealand in promoting the well-being of its people, besides its external interests, would be clearly established within the framework of that relationship,

Noting with appreciation the continuing exemplary cooperation of New Zealand as the administering Power with regard to the work of the Special Committee relating to Tokelau and its readiness to permit access by United Nations visiting missions to the Territory,

Noting also with appreciation the collaborative contribution to the development of Tokelau by New Zealand and the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme and the World Health Organization,

Recalling the dispatch in 1994 of a United Nations visiting mission to Tokelau,

Noting that, as a small island Territory, Tokelau exemplifies the situation of most remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Noting also that, as a case study pointing to successful decolonization, Tokelau has wider significance for the United Nations as it seeks to complete its work in decolonization,

1. *Notes* that Tokelau remains firmly committed to the development of self-government and to an act of self-determination that would result in Tokelau assuming a status in accordance with the options on future status for Non-Self-Governing Territories contained in principle VI of the annex to General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960;

2. *Also notes* the desire of Tokelau to move at its own pace towards an act of self-determination;

3. *Further notes* the inauguration in 1999 of a national Government based on village elections by universal adult suffrage;

4. *Acknowledges* Tokelau's goal to return authority to its traditional leadership, and its wish to provide that leadership with the necessary support to carry out its functions in the contemporary world;

5. *Also acknowledges* the progress made towards that goal under the Modern House of Tokelau project, and Tokelau's view that that project, in its governance and economic development dimensions, is seen by its people as the means to achieving their act of self-determination;

6. *Notes* that, consistent with the expressed desires of past traditional leaders and the principles of the Modern House of Tokelau, Tokelau has established a local public service employer which enabled the New Zealand State Services Commissioner to withdraw from his role as employer of the Tokelau Public Service as from 30 June 2001;

7. *Also notes* the positive outcomes of the visit by the elected village and national leaders to New Zealand in May 2001;

8. *Welcomes* the initiation of the dialogue with the administering Power and the Territory in June 2001 with a view to the development of a programme of work for Tokelau in accordance with General Assembly resolution 55/147 of 8 December 2000;

9. *Acknowledges* the continuing support which New Zealand has committed to the Modern House of Tokelau project in the period 2001–2002, and the cooperation of the United Nations Development Programme in aligning its programmes under the project;

10. *Notes* that the Constitution of a self-governing Tokelau will continue to develop as a part and as a consequence

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[127] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[128] A/56/23 (Part II), chap. XI. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 23.*

of the building of the Modern House of Tokelau, and that both have national and international importance for Tokelau;

11. *Acknowledges* Tokelau's need for continued reassurance given the cultural adjustments that are taking place with the strengthening of its capacity for self-government and, given that local resources cannot adequately cover the material side of self-determination, the ongoing responsibility of Tokelau's external partners to assist Tokelau in balancing its desire to be self-reliant to the greatest extent possible with its need for external assistance;

12. *Notes* the special challenge inherent in the situation of Tokelau, among the smallest of the small Territories, and how a Territory's exercise of its inalienable right to self-determination may be brought closer, as in the case of Tokelau, by the meeting of that challenge in innovative ways;

13. *Welcomes* the assurance of the Government of New Zealand that it will meet its obligations to the United Nations with respect to Tokelau and abide by the freely expressed wishes of the people of Tokelau with regard to their future status;

14. *Also welcomes* the application by Tokelau, with the full support of New Zealand, for associate membership in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and its application for full membership in the Forum Fisheries Agency;

15. *Calls upon* the administering Power and United Nations agencies to continue to provide assistance to Tokelau as it further develops its economy and governance structures in the context of its ongoing constitutional evolution;

16. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to examine the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territory of Tokelau and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session.

RESOLUTIONS 56/72 A and B

Adopted at the 82nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/557, para. 20)[129]

56/72. Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands

A

GENERAL

The General Assembly,

Having considered the questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands, hereinafter referred to as "the Territories",

Having examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[130]

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to those Territories, including, in particular, the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the individual Territories covered by the present resolution,

Recognizing that the specific characteristics and the sentiments of the peoples of the Territories require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

Recalling its resolution 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960, containing the principles that should guide Member States in determining whether or not an obligation exists to transmit the information called for under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations,

Expressing its concern that, even forty-one years after the adoption of the Declaration, there still remain a number of Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Acknowledging the significant achievements by the international community towards the eradication of colonialism in accordance with the Declaration, and conscious of the importance of continuing effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2010 and the plan of action for the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[131]

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[129] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[130] A/56/23 (Part II), chap. X. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 23.*

Noting the positive constitutional developments in some Non-Self-Governing Territories about which the Special Committee has received information, while also acknowledging the need for recognition to be given to expressions of self-determination by the peoples of the Territories consistent with practice under the Charter,

Recognizing that in the decolonization process there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination as enunciated by the General Assembly in its resolutions 1514 (XV), 1541 (XV) and other resolutions,

Welcoming the stated position of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland that it continues to take seriously its obligations under the Charter to develop self-government in the dependent Territories and, in cooperation with the locally elected Governments, to ensure that their constitutional frameworks continue to meet the wishes of the people, and the emphasis that it is ultimately for the peoples of the Territories to decide their future status,

Welcoming also the stated position of the Government of the United States of America that it supports fully the principles of decolonization and takes seriously its obligations under the Charter to promote to the utmost the well-being of the inhabitants of the Territories under United States administration,

Aware of the special circumstances of the geographical location and economic conditions of each Territory, and bearing in mind the necessity of promoting economic stability and diversifying and strengthening further the economies of the respective Territories as a matter of priority,

Conscious of the particular vulnerability of the Territories to natural disasters and environmental degradation and, in this connection, bearing in mind the programmes of action of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,[132] the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction,[133] the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[134] and other relevant world conferences,

Aware of the usefulness both to the Territories and to the Special Committee of the participation of appointed and elected representatives of the Territories in the work of the Special Committee,

Convinced that the wishes and aspirations of the peoples of the Territories should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

Convinced also that any negotiations to determine the status of a Territory must not take place without the active involvement and participation of the people of that Territory,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territories are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in resolutions 1514 (XV), 1541 (XV) and other resolutions of the General Assembly,

Mindful that United Nations visiting missions provide an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Territories, and considering that the possibility of sending further visiting missions to the Territories at an appropriate time and in consultation with the administering Powers should be kept under review,

Mindful also that, by holding a Caribbean regional seminar at Havana from 23 to 25 May 2001, the Special Committee was able to hear the views of the representatives of the Territories, as well as Governments and organizations in the region, in order to review the political, economic and social conditions in the Territories,

Mindful further that, in order for it to enhance its understanding of the political status of the peoples of the Territories and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for the Special Committee to be apprised by the administering Powers and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territories, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the peoples of the Territories,

Mindful, in this connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters and other venues, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate, while recognizing the need for reviewing the role of those seminars in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

Mindful also that some Territories have not received a United Nations visiting mission for a long period of time and that no visiting missions have been sent to some of the Territories,

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[131] A/56/61, annex.

[132] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*.

[133] See A/CONF.172/9, chap. I.

[134] See *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I.

Noting with appreciation the contribution to the development of some Territories by specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, and regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank,

Noting that some territorial Governments have made efforts towards achieving the highest standards of financial supervision, but that some others have been listed by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development as having met the criteria of a tax haven according to its definition, and noting also that some territorial Governments have expressed concern about insufficient dialogue between them and the Organisation,

Recalling the ongoing efforts of the Special Committee in carrying out a critical review of its work with the aim of making appropriate and constructive recommendations and decisions to attain its objectives in accordance with its mandate,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the peoples of the Territories to self-determination, including, if they so wish, independence, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Reaffirms also* that it is ultimately for the peoples of the Territories themselves to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Powers, in cooperation with the territorial Governments, to facilitate programmes of political education in the Territories in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV);

3. *Requests* the administering Powers to transmit to the Secretary-General information called for under Article 73 *e* of the Charter and other updated information and reports, including reports on the wishes and aspirations of the peoples of the Territories regarding their future political status as expressed in fair and free referendums and other forms of popular consultation, as well as the results of any informed and democratic processes consistent with practice under the Charter that indicate the clear and freely expressed wish of the people to change the existing status of the Territories;

4. *Stresses* the importance for it to be apprised of the views and wishes of the peoples of the Territories and to enhance its understanding of their conditions;

5. *Reaffirms* that United Nations visiting missions to the Territories at an appropriate time and in consultation with the administering Powers are an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Territories, and requests the administering Powers and the elected representatives of the peoples of the Territories to assist the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in this regard;

6. *Reaffirms also* the responsibility of the administering Powers under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territories, and recommends that priority continue to be given, in consultation with the territorial Governments concerned, to the strengthening and diversification of their respective economies;

7. *Requests* the administering Powers, in consultation with the peoples of the Territories, to take all necessary measures to protect and conserve the environment of the Territories under their administration against any environmental degradation, and requests the specialized agencies concerned to continue to monitor environmental conditions in those Territories;

8. *Calls upon* the administering Powers, in cooperation with the respective territorial Governments, to continue to take all necessary measures to counter problems related to drug trafficking, money-laundering and other offences;

9. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to enter into constructive dialogue with the Special Committee before the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly to develop a framework for the implementation of provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to the Colonial Countries and Peoples for the period 2001–2010;

10. *Notes* the particular circumstances that prevail in the Territories concerned, and encourages the political evolution in them towards self-determination;

11. *Urges* Member States to contribute to the efforts of the United Nations to usher in the twenty-first century in a world free of colonialism, and calls upon them to continue to give their full support to the Special Committee in its endeavours towards that noble goal;

12. *Invites* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to initiate or to continue to take all necessary measures to accelerate progress in the social and economic life of the Territories, and calls for closer cooperation between the Special Committee and the Economic and Social Council in furtherance of the provision of assistance to the Territories;

13. *Takes note* of statements made by the elected representatives of the Territories concerned emphasizing their willingness to cooperate with all international efforts aimed at preventing abuse of the international financial system and to promote regulatory environments with highly selective licensing procedures, robust supervisory practices and well-established anti-money-laundering regimes;

14. *Calls* for an enhanced and constructive dialogue between the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development and the concerned territorial Governments with a view to bringing about the changes needed to meet the highest standards of transparency and information exchange in order to facilitate the removal of those Non-Self-Governing Territories from the list of jurisdictions classified as tax havens, and requests the administering Powers to assist those Territories in resolving the matter;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly on the implementation of decolonization resolutions since the declaration of the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism;

16. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue its examination of the question of the small Territories and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session with recommendations on appropriate ways to assist the peoples of the Territories in exercising their right to self-determination.

B

INDIVIDUAL TERRITORIES

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

I

American Samoa

Taking note of the report by the administering Power that most American Samoan leaders express satisfaction with the Territory's present relationship with the United States of America,

Taking note with interest of the statement made and the information on the political and economic situation in American Samoa provided by the Governor of American Samoa and the delegate of American Samoa to the United States Congress to the Caribbean regional seminar, held at Havana from 23 to 25 May 2001,[135]

Noting that the Government of the Territory continues to have significant financial, budgetary and internal control problems and that the Territory's deficit and financial condition are compounded by the high demand for governmental services from the rapidly growing population, a limited economic and tax base and recent natural disasters,

Noting also that the Territory, similar to isolated communities with limited funds, continues to experience a lack of adequate medical facilities and other infrastructural requirements,

Aware of the efforts of the Government of the Territory to control and reduce expenditures, while continuing its programme of expanding and diversifying the local economy,

1. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. *Calls upon* the administering Power to continue to assist the territorial Government in the economic and social development of the Territory, including measures to rebuild financial management capabilities and strengthen other governmental functions of the Government of the Territory;

3. *Welcomes* the invitation extended to the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the Governor of American Samoa to send a visiting mission to the Territory;

II

Anguilla

Conscious of the commitment of both the Government of Anguilla and the administering Power to a new and closer policy of dialogue and partnership through the Strategic Country Programme 2000–2003,

Aware of the efforts of the Government of Anguilla to continue to develop the Territory as a viable offshore centre and well-regulated financial centre for investors, by enacting modern company and trust laws, as well as partnership and insurance legislation, and computerizing the company registry system,

Noting the need for continued cooperation between the administering Power and the territorial Government in tackling the problems of drug trafficking and money-laundering,

Noting also that general elections were held on 3 March 2000, resulting in a new coalition government in the House of Assembly,

1. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. *Calls upon* the administering Power and all States, organizations and United Nations agencies to continue to assist the Territory in social and economic development;

3. *Welcomes* the Country Cooperation Framework of the United Nations Development Programme for the period 1997–1999 currently being implemented following consultations

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[135] A/56/23 (Part I), chap. II, annex, para. 31. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 23.*

with the territorial Government and key development partners in the United Nations system and the donor community;

4. *Also welcomes* the assessment by the United Nations Development Programme that the Territory has made considerable progress in the domain of sustainable human development and in its sound management and preservation of the environment, which has been incorporated into the National Tourism Plan;

5. *Further welcomes* the assessment by the Caribbean Development Bank in its 1999 report on the Territory that, despite economic contraction in the first quarter, the economy rebounded to reach 6 per cent growth during 1999;

III

Bermuda

Noting the results of the independence referendum held on 16 August 1995, and conscious of the different viewpoints of the political parties of the Territory on the future status of the Territory,

Noting also the functioning of the democratic process and the smooth transition of government in November 1998,

Noting further the comments made by the administering Power in its White Paper entitled "Partnership for Progress and Prosperity: Britain and the Overseas Territories",[136]

1. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. *Calls upon* the administering Power to continue to work with the Territory for its socio-economic development;

3. *Requests* the administering Power to elaborate, in consultation with the territorial Government, programmes specifically intended to alleviate the economic, social and environmental consequences of the closure of the military bases and installations of the United States of America in the Territory;

IV

British Virgin Islands

Noting the completion of the constitutional review in the Territory and the coming into force of the amended Constitution, and noting also the results of the general elections held on 17 May 1999,

Noting also the results of the constitutional review of 1993–1994, which made it clear that a prerequisite to independence must be a constitutionally expressed wish by the people as a result of a referendum,

Taking note of the statement made in 1995 by the Chief Minister of the British Virgin Islands that the Territory was ready for constitutional and political advancement towards full internal self-government and that the administering Power should assist through the gradual transfer of power to elected territorial representatives,

Noting that the Territory is emerging as one of the world's leading offshore financial centres,

Noting also the need for continued cooperation between the administering Power and the territorial Government in countering drug trafficking and money-laundering,

Noting further that the Territory commemorated its annual British Virgin Islands-United States Virgin Islands Friendship Day on 27 May 2000 in official ceremonies on Tortola,

1. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. *Requests* the administering Power, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and all financial institutions to continue to provide assistance to the Territory for socio-economic development and the development of human resources, bearing in mind the vulnerability of the Territory to external factors;

V

Cayman Islands

Noting the constitutional review of 1992–1993, according to which the population of the Cayman Islands expressed the sentiment that the existing relations with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland should be maintained and that the current status of the Territory should not be altered,

Aware that the Territory has one of the highest per capita incomes in the region, a stable political climate and virtually no unemployment,

Noting the actions taken by the territorial Government to implement its localization programme to promote increased participation by the local population in the decision-making process in the Cayman Islands,

Noting with concern the vulnerability of the Territory to drug trafficking, money-laundering and related activities,

Noting the measures taken by the authorities to deal with those problems,

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[136] A/AC.109/1999/1 and Corr.1, annex.

Noting also that the Territory has emerged as one of the world's leading offshore financial centres,

Noting further the approval by the Cayman Islands Legislative Assembly of the Territory's Vision 2008 Development Plan, which aims to promote development that is consistent with the aims and values of Caymanian society,

1. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. *Requests* the administering Power, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue to provide the territorial Government with all required expertise to enable it to achieve its socio-economic aims;

3. *Calls upon* the administering Power and the territorial Government to continue to cooperate to counter problems related to money-laundering, smuggling of funds and other related crimes, as well as drug trafficking;

4. *Requests* the administering Power, in consultation with the territorial Government, to continue to facilitate the expansion of the current programme of securing employment for the local population, in particular at the decision-making level;

5. *Welcomes* the implementation of the Country Cooperation Framework of the United Nations Development Programme for the Territory, which is designed to ascertain national development priorities and United Nations assistance needs;

VI

Guam

Recalling that, in a referendum held in 1987, the registered and eligible voters of Guam endorsed a draft Guam Commonwealth Act that would establish a new framework for relations between the Territory and the administering Power, providing for a greater measure of internal self-government for Guam and recognition of the right of the Chamorro people of Guam to self-determination for the Territory,

Recalling also its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to the Non-Self-Governing Territories, in particular, General Assembly resolutions 55/144 A and B of 8 December 2000,

Recalling further the requests by the elected representatives and non-governmental organizations of the Territory that Guam not be removed from the list of the Non-Self-Governing Territories with which the Special Committee is concerned, pending the self-determination of the Chamorro people and taking into account their legitimate rights and interests,

Aware that negotiations between the administering Power and the territorial Government on the draft Guam Commonwealth Act are no longer continuing and that Guam had established the process for a self-determination vote by the eligible Chamorro voters,

Cognizant that the administering Power continues to implement its programme of transferring surplus federal land to the Government of Guam,

Noting that the people of the Territory have called for reform in the programme of the administering Power with respect to the thorough, unconditional and expeditious transfer of land property to the people of Guam,

Conscious that immigration into Guam has resulted in the indigenous Chamorros becoming a minority in their homeland,

Aware of the potential for diversifying and developing the economy of Guam through commercial fishing and agriculture and other viable activities,

Noting the proposed closing and realigning of four United States Navy installations on Guam and the request for the establishment of a transition period to develop some of the closed facilities as commercial enterprises,

Recalling the dispatch in 1979 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory, and noting the recommendation of the 1996 Pacific regional seminar for sending a visiting mission to Guam,[137]

Noting with interest the statements made and the information on the political and economic situation in Guam provided by the representatives of the Territory to the Caribbean regional seminar, held at Havana from 23 to 25 May 2001,[138]

1. *Requests* the administering Power to work with Guam's Commission on Decolonization for the Implementation and Exercise of Chamorro Self-Determination with a view to facilitating Guam's decolonization and to keep the Secretary-General informed of the progress to that end;

2. *Calls upon* the administering Power to take into consideration the expressed will of the Chamorro people as supported by Guam voters in the plebiscite of 1987 and as provided for in Guam law, encourages the administering Power and the territorial Government of Guam to enter into negotiations on the matter, and requests the administering Power to inform the Secretary-General of progress to that end;

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[137] See A/AC.109/2058, para. 33 (20).

[138] A/56/23 (Part I), chap. II, annex, para. 33. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 23.*

3. *Requests* the administering Power to continue to assist the elected territorial Government in achieving its political, economic and social goals;

4. *Also requests* the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to continue to transfer land to the original landowners of the Territory;

5. *Further requests* the administering Power to continue to recognize and respect the political rights and the cultural and ethnic identity of the Chamorro people of Guam, and to take all necessary measures to respond to the concerns of the territorial Government with regard to the question of immigration;

6. *Requests* the administering Power to cooperate in establishing programmes specifically intended to promote the sustainable development of economic activities and enterprises, noting the special role of the Chamorro people in the development of Guam;

7. *Also requests* the administering Power to continue to support appropriate measures by the territorial Government aimed at promoting growth in commercial fishing and agricultural and other viable activities;

VII

Montserrat

Taking note with interest of the statements made and the information on the political and economic situation in Montserrat provided by the elected representative of the Territory to the Caribbean regional seminar, held at Havana from 23 to 25 May 2001,[139]

Taking note of the statement made by the Chief Minister of Montserrat on 22 May 1998 on the occasion of the observance of the Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of All Colonial Territories Fighting for Freedom, Independence and Human Rights,[140]

Noting that the last visiting mission to the Territory took place in 1982,

Noting also the functioning of a democratic process in Montserrat and that general elections were held in the Territory in November 1996,

Taking note of the reported statement of the Chief Minister that his preference was for independence within a political union with the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and that self-reliance was more of a priority than independence,

Noting with concern the dire consequences of a volcanic eruption, which led to the evacuation of three quarters of the Territory's population to safe areas of the island and to areas outside the Territory, in particular Antigua and Barbuda and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and which continues to have a negative impact upon the economy of the island,

Noting the efforts of the administering Power and the Government of the Territory to meet the emergency situation caused by the volcanic eruption, including the implementation of a wide range of contingency measures for both the private and the public sectors in Montserrat,

Noting also the coordinated response measures taken by the United Nations Development Programme and the assistance of the United Nations Disaster Management Team,

Noting with concern that a number of the inhabitants of the Territory continue to live in shelters because of volcanic activity,

1. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. *Calls upon* the administering Power, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system as well as regional and other organizations to continue to provide urgent emergency assistance to the Territory in alleviating the consequences of the volcanic eruption;

3. *Welcomes* the support of the Caribbean Community in the construction of housing in the safe zone to alleviate a shortage caused by the environmental and human crisis of the eruption of the Montsoufriere volcano, as well as the material and financial support from the international community to help alleviate the suffering caused by the crisis;

VIII

Pitcairn

Taking into account the unique nature of Pitcairn in terms of population and area,

Expressing its satisfaction with the continued economic and social advancement of the Territory, as well as with the improvement of its communications with the outside world and its management plan to address conservation issues,

1. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

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[139] A/56/23 (Part I), chap.II, annex, para. 34. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 23.*

[140] See A/AC.109/SR.1486.

2. *Also requests* the administering Power to continue its assistance for the improvement of the economic, social, educational and other conditions of the population of the Territory;

3. *Calls upon* the administering Power to continue its discussions with the representatives of Pitcairn on how best to support their economic security;

IX

St. Helena

Taking into account the unique character of St. Helena, its population and its natural resources,

Noting that a Commission of Inquiry into the Constitution appointed at the request of the Legislative Council of St. Helena reported its recommendations in March 1999, and that the Legislative Councillors are currently considering its recommendations,

Also noting the administering Power's commitment to consider carefully suggestions for specific proposals for constitutional change from territorial Governments as stated in its White Paper entitled "Partnership for Progress and Prosperity: Britain and the Overseas Territories",[136]

Welcoming the participation of an expert from the St. Helena Legislative Council for the first time in the Pacific regional seminar held at Majuro, from 16 to 18 May 2000,[141]

Aware of the establishment by the Government of the Territory of the Development Agency in 1995 to encourage private sector commercial development on the island,

Also aware of the efforts of the administering Power and the territorial authorities to improve the socio-economic conditions of the population of St. Helena, in particular with regard to food production, continuing high unemployment and limited transport and communications, and calls for continuing negotiations to allow access to Ascension Island by civilian charter flights,

Noting with concern the problem of unemployment on the island and the joint action of the administering Power and the territorial Government to deal with it,

1. *Notes* that the administering Power has taken note of various statements made by members of the Legislative Council of St. Helena about the Constitution and that it is prepared to discuss them further with the people of St. Helena;

2. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

3. *Requests* the administering Power and relevant regional and international organizations to continue to support the efforts of the territorial Government to address the socio-economic development challenges, including the high unemployment and the limited transport and communications problems;

X

Turks and Caicos Islands

Taking note with interest of the statements made and the information on the political and economic situation in the Turks and Caicos Islands provided by the Cabinet Minister as well as a member of the legislature from the opposition of the Territory to the Caribbean regional seminar, held at St. John's from 21 to 23 May 1997,[142]

Noting that the People's Democratic Movement was elected to power in the Legislative Council elections held in March 1999,

Also noting the efforts by the Government of the Territory to strengthen financial management in the public sector, including efforts to increase revenue,

Noting with concern the vulnerability of the Territory to drug trafficking and related activities, as well as its problems caused by illegal immigration,

Noting the need for continued cooperation between the administering Power and the territorial Government in countering drug trafficking and money-laundering,

Welcoming the assessment by the Caribbean Development Bank in its 1999 report that the economic performance of the Territory remained strong, with an increase in gross domestic product estimated at 8.7 per cent, reflecting strong growth in the tourism and construction sectors,

1. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. *Invites* the administering Power to take fully into account the wishes and interests of the Government and the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands in the governance of the Territory;

3. *Calls upon* the administering Power and the relevant regional and international organizations to continue to provide assistance for the improvement of the economic, social,

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[141] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/55/23), chap. II, annex, para. 39.

[142] See A/AC.109/2089, para. 29.

educational and other conditions of the population of the Territory;

4. *Calls upon* the administering Power and the territorial Government to continue to cooperate in order to counter problems related to money-laundering, smuggling of funds and other related crimes, as well as drug trafficking;

5. *Welcomes* the assessment by the Caribbean Development Bank in its 1999 report that the economy continued to expand with considerable output and low inflation;

6. *Also welcomes* the first Country Cooperation Framework approved by the United Nations Development Programme for the period 1998–2002, which should, inter alia, assist in the development of a national integrated development plan that will put into place procedures for determining the national development priorities over ten years, with the focus of attention on health, population, education, tourism and economic and social development;

7. *Takes note* of the statement made by the elected Chief Minister in May 2000 that the Territory is in the process of developing diversified resource mobilization strategies, including joint ventures with the private sector, and that external assistance would be welcomed as part of that process;

XI

United States Virgin Islands

Taking note with interest of the statements made and the information provided by the representative of the Governor of the United States Virgin Islands to the Caribbean regional seminar, held at Havana from 23 to 25 May 2001,[143]

Noting that although 80.4 per cent of the 27.5 per cent of the electorate that voted in the referendum on the political status of the Territory held on 11 October 1993 supported the existing territorial status arrangements with the administering Power, the law required the participation of 50 per cent of the registered voters for the results to be declared legally binding and therefore the status was left undecided,

Noting also the continuing interest of the territorial Government in seeking associate membership in the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and observer status in the Caribbean Community and the Association of Caribbean States,

Noting further the necessity of further diversifying the economy of the Territory,

Noting the efforts of the Government of the Territory to promote the Territory as an offshore financial services centre,

Noting with satisfaction the interest of the Territory in joining the United Nations International Drug Control Programme as a full participant,

Recalling the dispatch in 1977 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory,

Noting that the Territory commemorated its annual British Virgin Islands-United States Virgin Islands Friendship Day on 27 May 2000 in official ceremonies on Tortola,

1. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. *Also requests* the administering Power to continue to assist the territorial Government in achieving its political, economic and social goals;

3. *Further requests* the administering Power to facilitate the participation of the Territory, as appropriate, in various organizations, in particular the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, the Caribbean Community and the Association of Caribbean States;

4. *Expresses concern* that the Territory, which is already heavily indebted, had to borrow 21 million United States dollars from a commercial bank to carry out its year 2000 computer compliance programme, and calls for the United Nations year 2000 programme to be made available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

5. *Notes* that the general elections held in the Territory in November 1998 resulted in the orderly transfer of power;

6. *Expresses concern* that the territorial Government is facing severe fiscal problems, which has resulted in an accumulated debt of more than 1 billion dollars;

7. *Welcomes* the measures being taken by the newly elected territorial Government in addressing the crisis, including the adoption of a five-year operating and strategic financial plan, and calls upon the administering Power to provide every assistance required by the Territory to alleviate the fiscal crisis, including, inter alia, the provision of debt relief and loans;

8. *Notes* that the 1994 report of the United States Virgin Islands Commission on Status and Federal Relations concluded that, owing to the insufficient level of voter participation, the results of the 1993 referendum were declared legally null and void.

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[143] A/56/23 (Part I), chap. II, annex, para. 37. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 23.*

RESOLUTION 56/225

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/55/572/Add.1, para. 10)[144]

56/225. Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2006 (XIX) of 18 February 1965 and all other relevant resolutions,

Recalling in particular its resolutions 54/81 B of 25 May 2000 and 55/135 of 8 December 2000,

Affirming that the efforts of the United Nations in the peaceful settlement of disputes, inter alia, through its peacekeeping operations, are indispensable,

Convinced of the need for the United Nations to continue to improve its capabilities in the field of peacekeeping and to enhance the effective and efficient deployment of its peacekeeping operations,

Considering the contribution that all States Members of the Organization make to peacekeeping,

Noting the widespread interest in contributing to the work of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations expressed by many Member States, in particular troop-contributing countries,

Bearing in mind the continuous necessity of preserving the efficiency and strengthening the effectiveness of the work of the Special Committee,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations;[145]

2. *Endorses* the proposals, recommendations and conclusions of the Special Committee, contained in paragraphs 33 to 136 of its report;

3. *Urges* Member States, the Secretariat and relevant organs of the United Nations to take all necessary steps to implement the proposals, recommendations and conclusions of the Special Committee;

4. *Reiterates* that those Member States that become personnel contributors to United Nations peacekeeping operations in years to come or that participate in the future in the Special Committee for three consecutive years as observers shall, upon request in writing to the Chairman of the Special Committee, become members at the following session of the Special Committee;

5. *Decides* that the Special Committee, in accordance with its mandate, shall continue its efforts for a comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects and shall review the implementation of its previous proposals and consider any new proposals so as to enhance the capacity of the United Nations to fulfil its responsibilities in this field;

6. *Requests* the Special Committee to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects".

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[144] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Canada, Egypt, Japan, Nigeria and Poland.

[145] A/55/1024 and Corr.1.

IV. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Second Committee

Contents

Resolution No.	*Title*	*Page*
56/178.	International trade and development	215
56/179.	Unilateral economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries	215
56/180.	Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries	216
56/181.	Towards a strengthened and stable international financial architecture responsive to the priorities of growth and development, especially in developing countries, and to the promotion of economic and social equity	219
56/182.	Science and technology for development	219
56/183.	World Summit on the Information Society	221
56/184.	Enhancing international cooperation towards a durable solution to the external debt problems of developing countries	222
56/185.	Business and development	222
56/186.	Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin and returning such funds to the countries of origin	223
56/187.	Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1993–2002)	224
56/188.	Women in development	226
56/189.	Human resources development	229
56/190.	High-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership	231
56/191.	Implementation of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade	231
56/192.	Status of preparations for the International Year of Freshwater, 2003	232
56/193.	Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twenty-first session	233
56/194.	International cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon	234
56/195.	International Strategy for Disaster Reduction	234
56/196.	Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa	237
56/197.	Convention on Biological Diversity	239
56/198.	Further implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States	240
56/199.	Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind	242
56/200.	Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996–2005	243
56/201.	Triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system	245
56/202.	Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries	253
56/203.	International migration and development	255
56/204.	Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources	257

IV. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Second Committee

Resolution No. *Title* *Page*

56/205. Special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) 258

56/206. Strengthening the mandate and status of the Commission on Human Settlements and the status, role and functions of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) 259

56/207. Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006), including the proposal to establish a world solidarity fund for poverty eradication 262

56/208. United Nations Institute for Training and Research 266

56/209. Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence 267

56/210. International Conference on Financing for Development 268

56/211. Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields 268

56/212. Global Code of Ethics for Tourism 269

56/213. Public administration and development 269

56/226. World Summit on Sustainable Development 270

56/227. Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries 271

RESOLUTION 56/178

Adopted at the 90th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/558/Add.1, para. 18)[1]

56/178. International trade and development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 55/182 of 20 December 2000 on international trade and development,

Taking into account the ongoing preparations for the International Conference on Financing for Development, to be held at Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002,[2] which will consider, inter alia, trade in the context of financing for development,

Noting the outcome of the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held at Doha from 9 to 13 November 2001,[3]

Welcoming the outcome of the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held at Brussels from 14 to 20 May 2001,[4] in particular with regard to trade and development,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations on international trade and development,[5] the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations on unilateral economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries,[6] the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries,[7] the report of the Trade and Development Board on its forty-eighth session[8] and the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations on measures taken to initiate the preparatory process for the final review and appraisal of the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s,[9]

1. *Welcomes* the decision by the Trade and Development Board to conduct the midterm review of the outcome of the tenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at Bangkok from 29 April to 3 May 2002, and, in this regard, expresses deep appreciation to the Government of Thailand for offering to host the meeting;

2. *Stresses* the importance of continued substantive consideration of the sub-item on trade and development, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions";

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", a sub-item entitled "International trade and development";

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution and developments in the multilateral trading system.

RESOLUTION 56/179

Adopted at the 90th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/558/Add.1, para. 18),[10] by a recorded vote of 100 to 1, with 46 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[2] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 28* (A/55/28), part two; ibid., *Supplement No. 28A* (A/55/28/Add.1); ibid., *Supplement No. 28B* and corrigendum (A/55/28/Add.2 and Corr.1); and ibid., *Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 28* and corrigendum (A/56/28 and Corr.1).

[3] See A/C.2/56/7, annex.

[4] See A/CONF.191/11 and 12.

[5] A/56/376.

[6] A/56/473.

[7] See A/56/427.

[8] A/56/15 (Part III). For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 15*.

[9] A/56/435.

[10] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by the Islamic Republic of Iran (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

56/179. Unilateral economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the relevant principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[11] which states, inter alia, that no State may use or encourage the use of unilateral economic, political or any other type of measures to coerce another State in order to obtain from it the subordination of the exercise of its sovereign rights,

Bearing in mind the general principles governing the international trading system and trade policies for development contained in relevant resolutions, rules and provisions of the United Nations and the World Trade Organization,

Recalling its resolutions 44/215 of 22 December 1989, 46/210 of 20 December 1991, 48/168 of 21 December 1993, 50/96 of 20 December 1995, 52/181 of 18 December 1997 and 54/200 of 22 December 1999,

Gravely concerned that the use of unilateral coercive economic measures adversely affects the economy and development efforts of developing countries in particular and has a general negative impact on international economic cooperation and on worldwide efforts to move towards a non-discriminatory and open multilateral trading system,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[12]

2. *Urges* the international community to adopt urgent and effective measures to eliminate the use of unilateral coercive economic measures against developing countries that are not authorized by relevant organs of the United Nations or are inconsistent with the principles of international law as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and that contravene the basic principles of the multilateral trading system;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to monitor the imposition of measures of this nature and to study the impact of such measures on the affected countries, including the impact on trade and development;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[11] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[12] A/56/473.

RESOLUTION 56/180

Adopted at the 90th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/558/Add.1, para. 18)[13]

56/180. Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the provisions of its resolutions 44/214 of 22 December 1989, 46/212 of 20 December 1991, 48/169 of 21 December 1993, 50/97 of 20 December 1995, 52/183 of 18 December 1997 and 54/199 of 22 December 1999 and the Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation between Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and the Donor Community,[14] as well as the relevant parts of the Agenda for Development,[15]

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[16] in which heads of State and Government recognized the particular needs and problems of the landlocked developing countries and urged both bilateral and multilateral donors to increase financial and technical assistance to this group of countries to meet their particular development needs and to help them to overcome the impediments of geography by improving their transit transport systems, and resolved to create an environment, at the national and global levels alike, that is conducive to development and to the elimination of poverty,

Recognizing that the lack of territorial access to the sea, aggravated by remoteness and isolation from world markets, and prohibitive transit costs and risks impose serious constraints on the overall socio-economic development efforts of the landlocked developing countries,

Recognizing also that sixteen of the landlocked developing countries are also classified by the United Nations as least developed countries and that their geographical situation is an added constraint on their overall ability to cope with the challenges of development,

Recognizing further that most transit countries are themselves developing countries facing serious economic problems, including the lack of adequate infrastructure in the transport sector,

Noting the importance of continuing to strengthen the existing international support measures with a view to addressing further the problems of landlocked developing countries,

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[13] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[14] TD/B/42(1)/11-TD/B/LDC/AC.1/7, annex I.

[15] Resolution 51/240, annex.

[16] See resolution 55/2.

Emphasizing the importance of further strengthening effective and close cooperation and collaboration between landlocked developing countries and their transit neighbours, at regional, subregional and bilateral levels, inter alia, through cooperative arrangements in developing efficient transit transport systems in landlocked and transit developing countries, and noting the important role of the activities of the regional commissions in that regard,

Welcoming the holding in New York from 30 July to 3 August 2001 of the fifth Meeting of Governmental Experts from Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions,

Expressing its appreciation to donor countries for participating in the fifth Meeting of Governmental Experts and for the generous contribution that facilitated the participation of experts from landlocked and transit developing countries,

Taking note of the Vientiane Plan of Action[17] on measures designed to improve the transit transport systems of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, adopted at the first Specific Consultative Meeting on the Transit Transport Systems of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, held at Vientiane on 14 and 15 December 2000 under the auspices of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,

Noting the outcome of the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held at Doha from 9 to 13 November 2001,[18]

1. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the progress report of the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries;[19]

2. *Welcomes* the agreed conclusions and recommendations for future action adopted by the fifth Meeting of Governmental Experts from Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions;[20]

3. *Reaffirms* the right of access of landlocked countries to and from the sea and freedom of transit through the territory of transit countries by all means of transport, as set forth in article 125 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;[21]

4. *Also reaffirms* that transit countries, in the exercise of their full sovereignty over their territory, have the right to take all measures necessary to ensure that the rights and facilities provided for landlocked countries, including landlocked developing countries, in no way infringe upon their legitimate interests;

5. *Calls upon* the landlocked developing countries and their transit neighbours to implement measures to strengthen further their cooperative and collaborative efforts to deal with transit transport issues, including bilateral and, as appropriate, subregional cooperation, inter alia, by improving the physical infrastructure and non-physical aspects of transit transport systems, strengthening and concluding, where appropriate, bilateral and subregional agreements to govern transit transport operations, developing joint ventures in the area of transit transport and strengthening institutions and human resources dealing with transit transport, and, in this respect, notes that South-South cooperation also plays an important role in this field;

6. *Appeals once again* to all States, international organizations and financial institutions to implement, as a matter of urgency and priority, the specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries agreed upon in the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, the outcomes of recent major United Nations conferences relevant to landlocked developing countries and the Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation between Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and the Donor Community[14] and to take fully into account the agreed conclusions and recommendations of the fifth Meeting of Governmental Experts from Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions;

7. *Expresses its appreciation* for the financial and technical assistance made available by some donors to landlocked and transit developing countries in the form of grants or concessional loans for the construction, maintenance and improvement of their transport, storage and other transit-related facilities, including alternative routes and improved communications;

8. *Invites* donor countries, the United Nations Development Programme and multilateral financial and development institutions to provide landlocked and transit

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[17] UNCTAD/LDC/Misc.53, annex I.

[18] See A/C.2/56/7, annex.

[19] A/56/427.

[20] Ibid., sect. II.

[21] See *The Law of the Sea: Official Texts of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 and of the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 with Index and Excerpts from the Final Act of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.V.10).

developing countries with appropriate financial and technical assistance in the form of grants or concessional loans for the construction, maintenance and improvement of their transport, storage and other transit-related facilities, including alternative routes and improved communications, to promote subregional, regional and interregional projects and programmes, and, in this regard, to consider, inter alia, improving the availability and optimal use of different transport modes and intermodal efficiency along transport corridors;

9. *Emphasizes* that assistance for the improvement of transit transport facilities and services should be integrated into the overall economic development strategies of the landlocked and transit developing countries and that donor countries should consequently take into account the requirements for the long-term restructuring of the economies of the landlocked developing countries;

10. *Notes* the important role that the simplification, harmonization and standardization of transit procedures and documentation as well as the application of information technologies have played in enhancing the efficiency of transit systems, and calls upon the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in close cooperation with other relevant organizations of the United Nations system, to continue to assist landlocked and transit developing countries in those areas, in accordance with their mandates;

11. *Invites* those countries that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to international agreements and conventions related to transit trade and transport, and invites landlocked and transit countries to consider concluding bilateral or subregional intergovernmental agreements regarding various aspects of transit transport;

12. *Invites* the international community to continue to provide technical and financial support to landlocked and transit developing countries to assist with effective implementation of their cooperation agreements and arrangements on transit transport, taking into account the fact that many landlocked and transit developing countries have concluded bilateral and regional arrangements and are making efforts to implement them;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene in 2003 an International Ministerial Meeting of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, within the existing resources of the budget for the biennium 2002–2003 and with voluntary contributions, to review the current situation of transit transport systems, including the implementation of the Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation of 1995, and to formulate, inter alia, appropriate policy measures and action-oriented programmes aimed at developing efficient transit transport systems, which would be held for two days and would be preceded by a three-day meeting of senior officials to finalize the substantive preparations;

14. *Invites* Member States, members of the specialized agencies and United Nations observers, including landlocked and transit developing countries and donor countries, and international financial and development institutions, including relevant regional and subregional economic organizations and commissions, to participate in the International Ministerial Meeting and its preparatory process;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in close cooperation with and with the full involvement of the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, as appropriate, to provide substantive and organizational support, within the existing resources of the budget for the biennium 2002–2003 and with voluntary contributions, for the International Ministerial Meeting, and requests that, in this context, the necessary preparations be undertaken at the subregional and regional levels, as appropriate, with the involvement of all major stakeholders, including the private sector;

16. *Decides* to consider the precise timing and venue of the International Ministerial Meeting at its fifty-seventh session, taking into consideration the generous offer made by the Government of Kazakhstan to host the meeting;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene in 2003, prior to the International Ministerial Meeting and within the existing resources for the biennium 2002–2003, the sixth Meeting of Governmental Experts from Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions, including relevant regional and subregional economic organizations and commissions, and decides that that meeting shall serve as a preparatory committee for the International Ministerial Meeting, in both substantive and organizational aspects;

18. *Also requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in close cooperation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, as appropriate, to seek voluntary contributions to facilitate the preparations for the International Ministerial Meeting, including the participation of representatives of landlocked and transit developing countries at the meeting;

19. *Notes with appreciation* the contribution of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to formulating international policies and measures dealing with the particular problems of landlocked developing countries, inter alia, through technical cooperation programmes, and urges the Conference, inter alia, to keep under constant review the evolution of transit transport infrastructure facilities, institutions and services, to monitor the implementation of agreed measures, inter alia, by means of a case study as necessary, to promote regional and subregional cooperation, to build consensus on cooperative arrangements, to mobilize international support measures, to collaborate in all relevant initiatives, including those of the private sector and non-

governmental organizations, and to serve as a focal point for cross-regional issues of landlocked developing countries;

20. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, as appropriate, to take appropriate measures, within the existing resources of the budget for the biennium 2002–2003 and with voluntary contributions, for the effective implementation of the activities called for in the present resolution, and to provide the Office of the Special Coordinator for Least Developed, Landlocked and Island Developing Countries of the Conference with adequate resources so as to allow it to continue to support landlocked developing countries, to the extent of its mandate, including in the effective preparations for the International Ministerial Meeting;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to submit it to the Trade and Development Board and to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

22. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", a sub-item entitled "Preparations for the International Ministerial Meeting on Transit Transport Cooperation";

23. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", a sub-item entitled "Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries".

RESOLUTION 56/181

Adopted at the 90th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/558/Add.2, para. 6)[22]

56/181. Towards a strengthened and stable international financial architecture responsive to the priorities of growth and development, especially in developing countries, and to the promotion of economic and social equity

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/186 of 20 December 2000, entitled "Towards a strengthened and stable international financial architecture responsive to the priorities of growth and development, especially in developing countries, and to the promotion of economic and social equity",

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "International financial architecture and development, including net transfer of resources between developing and developed countries";[23]

2. *Takes note also* of the deliberations of the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Financing for Development,[24] which is to be held at Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002;

3. *Stresses* the importance of continued substantive consideration of the sub-item on the international financial system and development;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the international financial system and development, bearing in mind, inter alia, the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", the sub-item entitled "International financial system and development".

RESOLUTION 56/182

Adopted at the 90th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/558/Add.3, para. 12)[25]

56/182. Science and technology for development

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the role of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development in coordinating the activities of the United Nations system in the area of science and technology for development,

Cognizant of the role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as the secretariat responsible for the substantive servicing of the Commission,

Bearing in mind the cross-cutting nature of science and technology within the United Nations system and the need, inter alia, for effective policy guidance and better coordination,

Recognizing the importance of establishing and strengthening partnership and networking among the public and private sectors and academic institutions of all countries to build, transfer and strengthen the technological capabilities and skills needed, in particular for developing countries,

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[22] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[23] A/56/173 and Add.1 and 2.

[24] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 28* (A/55/28), part two; ibid., *Supplement No. 28A* (A/55/28/Add.1); ibid., *Supplement No. 28B* and corrigendum (A/55/28/Add.2 and Corr.1); and ibid., *Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 28* and corrigendum (A/56/28 and Corr.1).

[25] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

Stressing that the pace of globalization is influenced in large measure by the development of science and technology and that developing countries and countries with economies in transition need to become well equipped, inter alia, through international assistance, with the knowledge of science and technology and the practical skills and institutional structures associated with technology management, which are among the essential tools for enabling them to benefit from the opportunities offered by globalization and avoid the risk of marginalization in the process of globalization,

Recognizing the need to address the obstacles faced by developing countries in accessing technologies, while taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights and the special needs of developing countries,

Recognizing also that information and communication technologies are among the critical determinants for creating a global knowledge-based economy, accelerating growth, increasing competitiveness, promoting sustainable development, eradicating poverty and facilitating the effective integration of all countries into the global economy,

Recognizing further the need for dissemination of research knowledge, technologies and expertise in the field of biotechnology, in particular in the areas of agriculture, pharmaceuticals and health care, that could benefit mankind,

Welcoming the establishment of the Information and Communication Technologies Task Force, which will provide overall leadership in the United Nations role in helping to formulate strategies for the development of information and communication technologies, and under whose initiative the United Nations will lend a truly global dimension to efforts to bridge the global digital divide, foster digital opportunity and thus firmly put information and communication technologies in the service of development for all, while bearing in mind the power of information and communication technologies for advancing the internationally agreed development goals of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[26]

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the coordinating role of the Commission in support of efforts by developing countries to benefit from science and technology,[27]

1. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council to consider, no later than at its substantive session of 2002, ways and means to strengthen the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, inter alia, through increasing the frequency of its meetings, including their annualization, and through the implementation of the recommendations set out in the report of the Secretary-General,[27] while taking its mandate and budgetary constraints into consideration, and in that regard takes note of the recommendation of the Commission to the Council that the Commission should meet annually;[28]

2. *Also invites* the Economic and Social Council to consider favourably the request of the Commission to establish a working group, to meet during the regular sessions of the Commission, for the purpose of evaluating the work of the Commission, with a view to strengthening the role of the Commission in the United Nations system in the area of science and technology for development and increasing its effectiveness;

3. *Stresses* the importance of facilitating access to and transfer of knowledge and technology on concessional, preferential and favourable terms to the developing countries, as mutually agreed, taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights and the special needs of developing countries, with the objective of enhancing their technological capacities, capabilities, productivity and competitiveness in the world market;

4. *Also stresses* the need for all Governments to ensure the necessary conditions, including the creation of transparent legal and regulatory frameworks, to facilitate the acquisition and development of technology, to enhance innovation capacity, to improve the absorptive capacity of local enterprises and to build up supply capabilities;

5. *Further stresses* the importance of identifying and tackling barriers to and unjustifiable restrictions on the transfer of technologies, in particular to developing countries, inter alia, with a view to addressing such constraints while creating specific incentives for the transfer of technologies, including new and innovative ones;

6. *Encourages* the United Nations system to take advantage of the coordinating role and expertise of the Commission in the area of science and technology for development, where possible, in the follow-up to and preparation for major international conferences and summits;

7. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that the Commission and its secretariat within the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development are provided with the necessary resources to enable it to better carry out its mandate;

8. *Takes note* of the proposal of the Commission for a study regarding the feasibility of establishing an international mechanism for supporting and enhancing research and development within the developing countries and in areas

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[26] See resolution 55/2.

[27] A/56/96-E/2001/87.

[28] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 11* (E/2001/31), chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution III, para. 1.

critical to the developing countries, especially in the fields of health, education and agriculture;[29]

9. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and the international community to strengthen South-South cooperation initiatives, as well as subregional and regional cooperation, in the field of science and technology;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its fifty-eighth session, a report on the impact of new biotechnologies, with particular attention to sustainable development, including food security, health and economic productivity, with the inclusion of proposals on the aspects of the transfer of such technologies, in particular to developing countries and countries with economies in transition, while taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights and the special needs of developing countries, as well as on addressing constraints on the adequate utilization of such technologies.

RESOLUTION 56/183

Adopted at the 90th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/558/Add.3, para. 12)[30]

56/183. World Summit on the Information Society

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the urgent need to harness the potential of knowledge and technology for promoting the goals of the United Nations Millennium Declaration[31] and to find effective and innovative ways to put this potential at the service of development for all,

Recognizing also the pivotal role of the United Nations system in promoting development, in particular with respect to access to and transfer of technology, especially information and communication technologies and services, inter alia, through partnerships with all relevant stakeholders,

Convinced of the need, at the highest political level, to marshal the global consensus and commitment required to promote the urgently needed access of all countries to information, knowledge and communication technologies for development so as to reap the full benefits of the information and communication technologies revolution, and to address the whole range of relevant issues related to the information society, through the development of a common vision and understanding of the information society and the adoption of a declaration and plan of action for implementation by Governments, international institutions and all sectors of civil society,

Recalling the contributions to international consensus in this field achieved by the Millennium Declaration and the agreements reached at other international conferences and summits in recent years,

Taking note of the action plan presented by the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union to the Administrative Committee on Coordination[32] for the holding of the World Summit on the Information Society and the creation, by the Administrative Committee on Coordination, of a high-level Summit organizing committee, chaired by the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union and consisting of the heads of United Nations bodies and other international organizations interested in participating in the process leading to the Summit,

Considering that the Summit is to be convened under the patronage of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, with the International Telecommunication Union taking the lead role in its preparation, in cooperation with interested United Nations bodies and other international organizations as well as the host countries,

Recalling the ministerial declaration concerning information and communication technologies, adopted by the Economic and Social Council at the high-level segment of its substantive session of 2000,[33] and the subsequent work done in this regard, including the creation of the Information and Communication Technologies Task Force, as well as the welcoming of the forthcoming Summit by the Council in its agreed conclusions 2001/1,[34]

Recognizing the need to harness synergies and to create cooperation among the various information and communication technologies initiatives, at the regional and global levels, currently being undertaken or planned to promote and foster the potential of information and communication technologies for development by other international organizations and civil society,

1. *Welcomes* the resolution adopted by the Council of the International Telecommunication Union at its 2001 session, in which the Council endorsed the proposal of the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union to hold the World Summit on the Information Society at the highest possible level in two phases, the first in Geneva from 10 to

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[29] Ibid., para. 3.

[30] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[31] See resolution 55/2.

[32] The Administrative Committee on Coordination was renamed the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination pursuant to Economic and Social Council decision 2001/321 of 24 October 2001.

[33] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/55/3/Rev.1), chap. III, para. 17.

[34] A/56/3, chap. V, agreed conclusions 2001/1, para 7. For the final text see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth session, Supplement No. 3.*

12 December 2003 and the second in Tunis in 2005, pursuant to resolution 73 adopted by the Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union at its 1998 session, held in Minneapolis, United States of America;

2. *Recommends* that the preparations for the Summit take place through an open-ended intergovernmental preparatory committee, which would define the agenda of the Summit, finalize both the draft declaration and the draft plan of action, and decide on the modalities of the participation of other stakeholders in the Summit;

3. *Invites* the International Telecommunication Union to assume the leading managerial role in the executive secretariat of the Summit and its preparatory process;

4. *Invites* Governments to participate actively in the preparatory process of the Summit and to be represented in the Summit at the highest possible level;

5. *Encourages* effective contributions from and the active participation of all relevant United Nations bodies, in particular the Information and Communication Technologies Task Force, and encourages other intergovernmental organizations, including international and regional institutions, non-governmental organizations, civil society and the private sector to contribute to, and actively participate in, the intergovernmental preparatory process of the Summit and the Summit itself;

6. *Invites* the international community to make voluntary contributions to the special trust fund established by the International Telecommunication Union to support the preparations for and the holding of the Summit, as well as to facilitate the effective participation of representatives of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, in the regional meetings to be held in the second half of 2002, in the preparatory meetings to be held in the first half of 2002 and in 2003, and in the Summit itself;

7. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to inform all heads of State and Government of the adoption of the present resolution;

8. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union to submit to the General Assembly, at its fifty-seventh and fifty-eighth sessions, through the Economic and Social Council, for information, a report on the preparations for the Summit.

RESOLUTION 56/184

Adopted at the 90th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/558/Add.4, para. 6)[35]

56/184. Enhancing international cooperation towards a durable solution to the external debt problems of developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/164 of 16 December 1996, 52/185 of 18 December 1997, 53/175 of 15 December 1998, 54/202 of 22 December 1999 and 55/184 of 20 December 2000 on enhancing international cooperation towards a durable solution to the external debt problems of developing countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the external debt and debt-servicing problems of developing countries, including those resulting from global financial instability;[36]

2. *Takes note also* of the deliberations of the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Financing for Development,[37] which is to be held at Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the continued substantive consideration of the sub-item on external debt crisis and development;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the external debt crisis and development, bearing in mind, inter alia, the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", the sub-item entitled "External debt crisis and development".

RESOLUTION 56/185

Adopted at the 90th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/559, para. 16)[38]

56/185. Business and development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 54/204 of 22 December 1999,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General,[39]

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[35] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[36] A/56/262.

[37] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 28* (A/55/28), part two; ibid., *Supplement No. 28A* (A/55/28/Add.1); ibid., *Supplement No. 28B* and corrigendum (A/55/28/Add.2 and Corr.1); and ibid., *Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 28* and corrigendum (A/56/28 and Corr.1).

[38] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by the United States of America.

[39] A/56/442.

1. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the sub-item entitled "Business and development";

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the relevant United Nations organizations, to submit to it at its fifty-seventh session a follow-up report on the continuing implementation of resolution 54/204.

RESOLUTION 56/186

Adopted at the 90th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/559, para. 16)[40]

56/186. Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin and returning such funds to the countries of origin

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/205 of 22 December 1999 on the prevention of corrupt practices and illegal transfer of funds, 55/61 of 4 December 2000 on an effective international legal instrument against corruption and 55/188 of 20 December 2000 on preventing and combating corrupt practices and illegal transfer of funds and repatriation of such funds to the countries of origin, as well as the report of the meeting of the Intergovernmental Open-Ended Expert Group to Prepare Draft Terms of Reference for the Negotiation of an International Legal Instrument against Corruption,[41] which will be considered by the Economic and Social Council at its next session,

Concerned about the seriousness of problems posed by corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin, which may endanger the stability and security of societies, undermine the values of democracy and morality and jeopardize social, economic and political development,

Recognizing the need to create an enabling environment for business at the national and international levels in order to promote economic growth and sustainable development, taking into account the development priorities of Governments,

Recognizing also the responsibilities of Governments to adopt policies at the national and international levels aimed at preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin and returning such funds to the countries of origin,

Mindful of the catalytic role of the United Nations system in facilitating the constructive participation and orderly interaction of the private sector in the development process by embracing universal principles and norms, such as honesty, transparency and accountability,

Underlining the fact that preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin and returning such funds is an important element in mobilizing resources for development,

Recognizing the importance of international cooperation and existing international and national laws for combating corruption in international commercial transactions,

Noting that the International Conference on Financing for Development will be held at Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002,

Stressing the need to prevent and combat corrupt practices and the transfer of funds of illicit origin and to return such funds so as to enable countries to design and fund development projects, in accordance with their national priorities,

Noting that such corrupt practices include State funds being illegally acquired, transferred and invested abroad,

Noting also that the problem of corrupt practices and the transfer of funds of illicit origin, as well as the need to prevent the transfer of such funds, and to return them, have social, economic and legal implications that require comprehensive, holistic examination at the national and international levels,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the prevention of corrupt practices and illegal transfer of funds;[42]

2. *Reiterates its condemnation* of corruption, bribery, money-laundering and the transfer of funds of illicit origin, and stresses its belief that those practices need to be prevented and that funds of illicit origin transferred abroad need to be returned after request and due process;

3. *Calls*, while recognizing the importance of national measures, for increased international cooperation, inter alia, through the United Nations system, in support of efforts by Governments to prevent and address the transfer of funds of illicit origin as well as to return such funds to the countries of origin;

4. *Requests* the international community to support the efforts of all countries to strengthen institutional capacity and regulatory frameworks for preventing corruption, bribery, money-laundering and the transfer of funds of illicit origin, as well as for returning such funds to the countries of origin;

5. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council to finalize its consideration of the draft terms of reference for the negotiation of a United Nations convention against corruption,[41]

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[40] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[41] See A/56/402-E/2001/105.

[42] A/56/403 and Add.1.

by which an ad hoc committee would be requested to consider, inter alia, the elements of prevention and combating the transfer of funds of illicit origin derived from acts of corruption, including the laundering and returning of such funds, expeditiously;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and also requests the Secretary-General, upon the completion of the work of the ad hoc committee referred to above, to submit recommendations on options for further consideration by the Assembly regarding this question;

7. *Decides* to keep the matter under review and to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session a sub-item entitled "Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin and returning such funds to the countries of origin" under the item entitled "Sectoral policy questions".

RESOLUTION 56/187

Adopted at the 90th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/559, para. 16)[43]

56/187. Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1993–2002)

The General Assembly,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[44] the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits, the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s[45] and its resolutions 54/203 of 22 December 1999, 55/187 of 20 December 2000 and 55/216 of 21 December 2000,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council decision 1999/270 of 28 July 1999 concerning the implementation and coordinated follow-up by the United Nations system of initiatives on African development, and taking note of the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2001 of the Economic and Social Council on the role of the United Nations in support of the efforts of African countries to achieve sustainable development, adopted on 18 July 2001,[46]

Taking note of the Plan of Action of the Alliance for Africa's Industrialization, adopted by the Conference of African Ministers of Industry at its thirteenth meeting, held at Accra in May 1997,[47] the outcome of the Conference on Industrial Partnerships and Investment in Africa, held at Dakar on 20 and 21 October 1999, and the outcome of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry, held at Yaoundé on 29 and 30 October 2001,

Taking note also of the statement of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade, held at Abuja in September 2001, to the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, and recalling resolution 2 (XIV) on the African common position on globalization, adopted by the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry, held at Dakar on 22 and 23 October 1999,[48] both of which recognize the critical need for support for African countries in addressing the supply-side constraints on their integration into the world economy,

Welcoming the New Partnership for Africa's Development, which is a pledge by African leaders, based on a common vision and a firm and shared conviction, that they have a pressing duty to eradicate poverty and to place their countries, both individually and collectively, on a path of sustainable growth and development and at the same time to participate actively in the world economy and body politic, bearing in mind that the Partnership is anchored in the determination of Africans to extricate themselves and the continent from the malaise of underdevelopment and exclusion in a globalizing world, and urging that further steps be taken to operationalize it,

Recognizing the importance of industrialization as a key element in promoting sustained economic growth and sustainable development in Africa and its role in facilitating efforts to eradicate poverty, inter alia, through the enhancement of agro-based industries, the promotion of competitiveness, productive employment, capacity-building, gender mainstreaming and the empowerment of women and effective and efficient management systems,

Recognizing also the commendable efforts of African countries to engage their respective private sectors and civil society in policy dialogue at the highest levels and the need to continue such efforts to improve further the capacity of the private sector, including micro, small and medium-sized enterprises,

Recognizing further the need for African countries to continue their efforts to create a climate favourable to private sector development and foreign direct investment and the commitment of African countries to using both human and financial resources more efficiently in the process of industrialization, and emphasizing the continuing need for the mobilization of adequate resources through domestic initiatives and international support, inter alia, through enhanced official development assistance, investment guarantees, debt relief, as appropriate, and enhanced market access,

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[43] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[44] See resolution 55/2.

[45] Resolution 46/151, annex, sect. II.

[46] A/56/3, chap. III, para. 29. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 3*.

[47] See A/52/480, sect. IV.C.

[48] See E/ECA/CAMI.14/99/10, annex IV.

Recognizing the opportunities for and challenges of exploiting information and communication technologies and e-commerce for the overall industrial development of Africa, and in that regard noting the establishment of the Information and Communication Technologies Task Force,

Welcoming the progress made in the consolidation and programmatic reform of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, including through the instrument of integrated programmes to promote sustainable industrial development in African countries, and its approach to field activities through joint programming with the United Nations resident coordinator system in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1993–2002);[49]

2. *Notes with concern* that, despite the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa, which ends in 2002, little progress has been made in the overall industrialization of the continent and in some countries industrialization has regressed, and in that regard reaffirms the need for continuing domestic and international efforts towards Africa's industrialization;

3. *Reaffirms* the need for the African countries that have not yet done so to integrate the objectives of the Alliance for Africa's Industrialization, as appropriate, into their national plans for the establishment of institutional capacity for monitoring programmes and related projects;

4. *Emphasizes* the need for support for the implementation of the sectoral priorities in the New Partnership for Africa's Development concerning diversification of African production and exports, specifically with regard to promotion of the manufacturing sector and agro-based industries and for enhancing productive capacities and enabling African countries to participate more effectively in global trade;

5. *Underlines* the need for national Governments to improve the regulatory and policy environment in which micro, small and medium-sized enterprises operate, inter alia, to facilitate their access to credit and improve transport, energy and communications infrastructures, in order to foster their economic performance and competitiveness, and in that regard invites development partners to provide the appropriate technical assistance;

6. *Invites* the Economic Commission for Africa to work in cooperation with the Information and Communication Technologies Task Force and to play a more active role in the promotion of new information and communication technologies and e-commerce;

7. *Also invites* the Economic Commission for Africa to play a more active role in the development of African micro, small and medium-sized enterprises and industries, in coordination with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and other United Nations bodies concerned with the development of such enterprises, paying particular attention to enterprises owned by women and to women entrepreneurs;

8. *Invites* the international community, the World Bank, United Nations funds and programmes, the African Development Bank and other relevant regional institutions, in accordance with their respective mandates, to give full effect to the relevant provisions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development by supporting the implementation of the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa and the Plan of Action of the Alliance for Africa's Industrialization,[47] as well as the outcome of the Conference on Industrial Partnerships and Investment in Africa and the outcome of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry;

9. *Appeals* to the international community, the World Bank, the African Development Bank and United Nations funds and programmes, in accordance with their respective mandates, to support the efforts of the African countries to intensify and expand industrial cooperation among themselves;

10. *Commends* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization for its work related to the provision of technical assistance to African countries, in particular the least developed among them, so as to enhance their capacity to overcome technical barriers to trade in industrial and other products, including improving quality standards to alleviate supply-side constraints, and to promote industrial competitiveness, and calls upon the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to continue to work closely with the World Trade Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and other relevant multilateral institutions in the provision of technical assistance to African countries, in order to enable them to integrate fully into the world economy;

11. *Calls upon* the international community to support Africa in strengthening its private sector through, in particular, the promotion of investment and exports, the promotion and creation of small and medium-sized enterprises, increased productivity, improved quality assurance and standardization, and financing, and welcomes in that context the trade facilitation initiatives of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization;

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[49] A/56/139.

12. *Also calls upon* the international community to support the efforts of African countries to enhance the development of their human resources in the fields of health, basic education and vocational and technical training through, inter alia, South-South cooperation utilizing triangular arrangements;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to complete a review of the implementation of the programme for the Decade, including identification of lessons learned, before the end of the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, with a view to including the outcome of such a review in the overall review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s[45] and the ongoing processes under the New Partnership for Africa's Development and the establishment of the African Union;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session under an item entitled "United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa", a sub-item entitled "Implementation of the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa";

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/188

Adopted at the 90th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/560/Add.1, para. 6)[50]

56/188. Women in development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/195 of 18 December 1997, 54/210 of 22 December 1999 and all its other resolutions on the integration of women in development, and the relevant resolutions and agreed conclusions, including those on women in the economy,[51] adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women,

Reaffirming the Beijing Declaration[52] and Platform for Action[53] and the outcome documents of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[54] as well as the outcomes of other recent major United Nations conferences and summits and other relevant special sessions of the General Assembly and their follow-up processes,

Reaffirming also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[55] which affirms that the equal rights and opportunities of women and men must be assured, and calls for, inter alia, the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women as effective ways to combat poverty, hunger and disease and to stimulate development that is truly sustainable,

Reaffirming further that gender equality is of fundamental importance for achieving sustained economic growth and sustainable development, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions and recent United Nations conferences, and that investing in the development of women and girls has a multiplier effect, in particular on productivity, efficiency and sustained economic growth,

Recognizing the significant contribution that women make to the economy and the major force that they represent for change and development in all sectors of the economy, especially in key areas such as agriculture, industry and services,

Reaffirming that women are key contributors to the economy and to combating poverty through both remunerated and unremunerated work at home, in the community and in the workplace, and that the empowerment of women is a critical factor in the eradication of poverty,

Recognizing that population and development issues, education and training, health, nutrition, the environment, water supply, sanitation, housing, communications, science and technology and employment opportunities are important elements for effective poverty eradication and the advancement and empowerment of women,

Recognizing also, in this context, the importance of respect for all human rights, including the right to development, and of a national and international environment that promotes, inter alia, justice, gender equality, equity, popular participation and political freedom for the advancement and empowerment of women,

Recognizing further that education and training, in particular in business, trade, administration, information and communication technologies and other new technologies, are essential for gender equality, the empowerment of women and poverty eradication,

Recognizing that the difficult socio-economic conditions that exist in many developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, have resulted in the acceleration of the feminization of poverty and that the empowerment of women is a critical factor in the eradication of poverty,

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[50] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[51] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1997, Supplement No. 7* (E/1997/27), chap. I, sect. C.1, agreed conclusions 1997/3.

[52] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[53] Ibid., annex II.

[54] Resolutions S-23/2, annex, and S-23/3, annex.

[55] See resolution 55/2.

Recognizing also that poverty eradication and the achievement and preservation of peace are mutually reinforcing, and recognizing further that peace is inextricably linked to equality between women and men and to development,

Aware that, although globalization and liberalization processes have created employment opportunities for women in many countries, they have made women, especially in developing countries and in particular in the least developed countries, more vulnerable to problems caused by increased economic volatility,

Recognizing that some effects of market liberalization may deepen the socio-economic marginalization of women in the agricultural sector, including through the loss of employment among small-scale farmers who are more likely to be women than men, and emphasizing that women who are small-scale farmers need special support and empowerment so as to be able to meet the challenges and take advantage of the opportunities of agricultural market liberalization,

Recognizing also that enhanced trade opportunities for developing countries, including through trade liberalization, will improve the economic condition of those societies, including women, which is of particular importance in rural communities,

Aware that, while women represent an important and growing proportion of business owners, their contribution to economic and social development is constrained by, inter alia, the lack of equal access of women and men to, and control over, credit, technology, support services, land and information,

Concerned that the continuing discrimination against women, the denial or lack of equal rights and access to education, training and credit facilities and the lack of control over land, capital, technology and other areas of production impede their full and equal contribution to, and equal opportunity to benefit from, development,

Emphasizing the promotion of programmes aimed at financial intermediation with a view to ensuring the access of rural women to credit and to agricultural inputs and implements and, in particular, to easing collateral requirements for access to finance by women,

Expressing its concern about the under-representation of women in economic decision-making, and stressing the importance of mainstreaming a gender perspective in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of all policies,

Noting the importance of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular its funds and programmes, including the United Nations Development Fund for Women, in facilitating the advancement of women in development, and recognizing the work done by the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,

Welcoming the fact that the Commission on the Status of Women will take up the theme of eradicating poverty, including through the empowerment of women throughout their life cycle in a globalizing world, at its forty-sixth session, in 2002,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Women in development: access to financial resources: a gender perspective";[56]

2. *Calls* for the accelerated and effective implementation of the Beijing Declaration[52] and Platform for Action[53] and the relevant provisions of the outcome documents of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly,[54] as well as the outcomes of all other major United Nations conferences and summits and other relevant special sessions of the General Assembly and their follow-up processes;

3. *Stresses* that a favourable and conducive national and international environment in all fields of life is necessary for the effective integration of women in development;

4. *Urges* Governments to develop and promote methodologies for mainstreaming a gender perspective in all aspects of policy-making, including economic policy-making;

5. *Recognizes* the mutually reinforcing links between gender equality and poverty eradication, as well as the need to elaborate and implement, where appropriate, in consultation with civil society, comprehensive gender-sensitive poverty eradication strategies that address social, structural and macroeconomic issues;

6. *Stresses* the importance of developing national strategies for the promotion of sustainable and productive entrepreneurial activities that will generate income among disadvantaged women and women living in poverty;

7. *Urges* all Governments to ensure women's equal rights with men and their full and equal access to education, training, employment, technology and economic and financial resources, including credit, in particular for rural women and women in the informal sector, and to facilitate, where appropriate, the transition of women from the informal to the formal sector;

8. *Encourages* Governments, the private sector, non-governmental organizations and other actors of civil society to promote and protect the rights of women workers and to take action to remove structural and legal barriers as well as stereotypical attitudes to gender equality at work, and to initiate positive steps to promote equal pay for equal work or work of equal value;

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[56] A/56/321 and Corr.1.

9. *Urges* all Governments to take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women with regard to their access to bank loans, mortgages and other forms of financial credit, giving special attention to poor, uneducated women, and to support women's access to legal assistance;

10. *Calls upon* Governments and entrepreneurial associations to facilitate the access of women, including young women and women entrepreneurs, to education and training in business, administration and information and communication technologies;

11. *Recognizes* the role of microfinance, including microcredit, in the eradication of poverty, the empowerment of women and the generation of employment, and in this regard notes the importance of sound national financial systems and encourages the strengthening of existing and emerging microcredit institutions and their capacities, including through the support of international financial institutions;

12. *Stresses* the need for assistance to enable women in developing countries, particularly grass-roots women's groups, to have full access to and use of new technologies, including information technologies, for their empowerment;

13. *Urges* States to design and revise laws that ensure that women are accorded full and equal rights to own land and other property, including through inheritance, and to undertake administrative reforms and other necessary measures to give women the same right as men to credit, capital and appropriate technologies and access to markets and information;

14. *Calls upon* Governments to encourage the financial sector to mainstream a gender perspective in its policies and programmes, in particular by:

(*a*) Exploring viable options to reach people living in poverty, in particular women, including through international public and/or private funds;

(*b*) Designing savings schemes that are attractive to the poor and to poor women in particular;

(*c*) Undertaking research to learn more about the characteristics, financial needs and performance of businesses owned by women;

(*d*) Working towards equal treatment for women clients through comprehensive gender-awareness training for staff at all levels and better representation of women in decision-making positions;

15. *Requests* Governments to ensure the full participation of women in decision-making and in policy formulation and implementation at all levels so that their priorities, skills and potentials can be adequately reflected in national policy;

16. *Calls upon* Governments to promote, inter alia, through legislation, family-friendly and gender-sensitive work environments and also to promote the facilitation of breastfeeding for working mothers as well as the provision of the necessary care for working women's children and other dependants;

17. *Calls upon* the international community to make efforts to mitigate the effects of excess volatility and economic disruption, which have a disproportionately negative impact on women, and to enhance trade opportunities for developing countries in order to improve the economic conditions of women;

18. *Urges* the international community, the United Nations system and relevant organizations to give priority to assisting the efforts of developing countries to ensure the full and effective participation of women in deciding and implementing development strategies and integrating gender concerns into national programmes, including by providing adequate resources to operational activities for development in support of the efforts of Governments to ensure, inter alia, full and equal access of women to health care, capital, education, training and technology, as well as full and equal participation in all decision-making;

19. *Expresses its appreciation* to the developed countries that have agreed to and have reached the target of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for overall official development assistance, and calls upon the developed countries that have not yet done so to strengthen their efforts to achieve the agreed target as soon as possible and, where agreed, within that target, to earmark 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national product for the least developed countries;

20. *Encourages* the international community, the United Nations system, the private sector and civil society to provide the necessary financial resources to assist national Governments in their efforts to meet the development targets and benchmarks agreed upon at the World Summit for Social Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women, the International Conference on Population and Development, the twenty-third and twenty-fourth special sessions of the General Assembly and other relevant United Nations conferences and summits;

21. *Encourages* the United Nations system and international and regional organizations, as appropriate, to assist Governments, at their request, in building institutional capacity and developing national action plans or further implementing existing action plans for the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action;

22. *Urges* multilateral donors, international financial institutions and regional development banks to review and implement policies to support national efforts to ensure that a higher proportion of resources reach women, in particular in rural and remote areas;

23. *Encourages* the International Conference on Financing for Development, to be held at Monterrey, Mexico,

from 18 to 22 March 2002, to examine all aspects of financing for development from a gender perspective;

24. *Encourages* Governments to integrate fully a gender perspective in their preparations for the World Summit on Sustainable Development, to be held at Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002;

25. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to integrate gender mainstreaming into all its programmes and policies, including in the integrated follow-up to United Nations conferences, in accordance with agreed conclusions 1997/2 on gender mainstreaming adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1997;[57]

26. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to update the *World Survey on the Role of Women in Development* for the consideration of the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session; as in the past, the survey should focus on selective emerging development issues that have an impact on the role of women in the economy at the national, regional and international levels;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution, including the impact of globalization on the empowerment of women and their integration in development;

28. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the sub-item entitled "Women in development".

RESOLUTION 56/189

Adopted at the 90th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/560/Add.2, para. 6)[58]

56/189. Human resources development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 45/191 of 21 December 1990, 46/143 of 17 December 1991, 48/205 of 21 December 1993, 50/105 of 20 December 1995, 52/196 of 18 December 1997 and 54/211 of 22 December 1999, as well as the relevant sections of the Agenda for Development,[59]

Reaffirming also the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted by heads of State and Government on 8 September 2000,[60]

Recalling Economic and Social Council decision 2001/299 of 19 July 2001, by which the Council adopted "The contribution of human resources development, including in the areas of health and education, to the process of development" as the theme for the high-level segment of its substantive session of 2002,

Recognizing that human beings are at the centre of concern in sustainable development,

Stressing that Governments have the primary responsibility for defining and implementing appropriate policies for human resources development and that there is a need for continuing support from the international community to complement the efforts of developing countries,

Stressing also that there is a need for an enabling national and international environment that will enhance human resources development in developing countries and promote sustained economic growth and sustainable development,

Stressing further that health and education are at the core of human resources development, and the need to ensure that by 2015 children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling and that girls and boys will have equal access to all levels of education, as expressed at the World Education Forum, held at Dakar from 26 to 28 April 2000, and in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,

Emphasizing that human resources development should be an essential component of international development cooperation and that there is a need to promote continuous training and capacity-building within projects and programmes as a means of advancing such development,

Recognizing that there is a need to integrate human resources development into comprehensive strategies that mainstream a gender perspective, taking into account the needs of all people, in particular the needs of women and girls,

Recognizing also the vital role of South-South cooperation in supporting national efforts at human resources development,

Expressing concern at the increasing development gap between developed and developing countries, including the gap in knowledge, information and communication technologies, and the increasing disparity of income in and among nations and its adverse impact on the development of human resources, in particular in the developing countries,

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[57] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/52/3/Rev.1), chap. IV.A, para. 4.

[58] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[59] Resolution 51/240, annex.

[60] See resolution 55/2.

Stressing that developing countries should be assisted in their efforts to develop capacity in and be well equipped with the knowledge of information technologies that would enable them to benefit from the opportunities offered by globalization and to avoid the risk of marginalization in the process of globalization,

Expressing deep concern at the devastating impact of the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) pandemic, especially in sub-Saharan Africa, and of other major diseases on human resources development, in particular in developing countries,

Emphasizing the continuing need for coordination and integration among the organs and organizations of the United Nations system in assisting developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, to foster the development of their human resources, especially that of the most vulnerable groups, and for the United Nations to continue to give priority to human resources development in developing countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[61]

2. *Recognizes* the importance of developing human resources as a means, inter alia, of promoting economic growth and eradicating poverty as well as of participating more effectively in the world economic system and benefiting from globalization;

3. *Urges* increased investments by all countries, the United Nations system, international organizations, the private sector, non-governmental organizations and civil society in all aspects of human development, such as health, nutrition, education, training and further capacity-building, with a view to achieving sustainable development and the well-being of all;

4. *Encourages* all countries to accord priority to human resources development in the context of the adoption of national economic and social policies, including their financing, taking into account their financial constraints;

5. *Urges* the adoption of comprehensive approaches to human resources development which combine, among other factors, economic growth, poverty eradication, provision of basic social services, sustainable livelihoods, empowerment of women, involvement of young people, the needs of vulnerable groups of society, the needs of local indigenous communities, political freedom, popular participation and respect for human rights, justice and equity, all of which are essential for enhancing human capacity to meet the challenge of development;

6. *Encourages* all countries to ensure local and community-level engagement in policy issues of human resources development;

7. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure the full participation of women in the formulation and implementation of national and local policies to promote human resources development;

8. *Recognizes* the need to direct concerted efforts at enhancing the technical skills and know-how of people living in rural and agricultural areas, with a view to improving their means of livelihood and material well-being, and in this regard encourages the allocation of more resources for that purpose so as to facilitate access to appropriate technology and know-how from within and from other countries, in particular the developed countries, as well as through South-South cooperation;

9. *Encourages* the adoption of policies, approaches and measures that serve to narrow the increasing gap between developed and developing countries in information and communication technologies in particular and in technology in general by, inter alia:

(*a*) Encouraging the private sector, in collaboration with the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations, to donate voluntarily to designated centres in developing countries literary materials, information and communications technology equipment and training which, together with the enabling policies and institutions both at the national and international levels, will facilitate improved access;

(*b*) Taking advantage of the rapid turnaround in both the educational institutions and corporations in developed countries of literary material and information and communications technology equipment, through coordinated efforts involving the United Nations system, non-governmental organizations and recipients in interested developing countries;

(*c*) Promoting transparent, efficient regulatory regimes and other policies that encourage investment;

(*d*) Supporting targeted investments in infrastructure that would establish the physical foundation for the operation of Internet services and pave the way for commercial and development applications;

(*e*) Developing training in information technologies for users such as non-governmental organizations, universities and business service organizations, as well as key governmental agencies;

10. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to harmonize further its collective human resources development efforts, in accordance with national policies and priorities;

11. *Encourages* the United Nations system to take a comprehensive view of human resources development in its initiatives, relating it to the acquisition of broader knowledge, with a view to enabling human resources to respond to the new demands associated with the technology revolution and to take advantage of emerging opportunities in a globalized world;

12. *Also encourages* the United Nations system to promote strategies for human resources development that

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[61] A/56/162.

facilitate access by developing countries to new information and communication technologies so as to bridge the digital divide;

13. *Further encourages* the United Nations system to focus in its cooperation activities on building human and institutional capacity, with specific attention given to women, girls and vulnerable groups;

14. *Encourages* the United Nations system to continue to engage, where appropriate, in partnerships with the private sector, in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions, so as to contribute further to the building of human resources development capacity in developing countries;

15. *Invites* international organizations, including international financial institutions, to continue to give priority to supporting the objectives of human resources development and to integrating them into their policies, projects and operations;

16. *Calls upon* developed countries and the United Nations system to increase support to programmes and activities in developing countries for advancing human resources development and capacity-building, in particular those geared towards harnessing information and communication technologies;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation", the sub-item entitled "Human resources development".

RESOLUTION 56/190

Adopted at the 90th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/560/Add.3, para. 7)[62]

56/190. High-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/165 of 21 December 1993, 49/95 of 19 December 1994, 50/122 of 20 December 1995, 51/174 of 16 December 1996, 52/186 of 18 December 1997, 53/181 of 15 December 1998, 54/213 of 22 December 1999 and 55/193 of 20 December 2000,

Reaffirming its resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000, entitled "United Nations Millennium Declaration",

Recalling the Agenda for Development[63] and the relevant provisions regarding its follow-up and implementation, and the need to give impetus to international economic cooperation for development so as to follow up on the Agenda effectively,

Reaffirming the importance of continuing the dialogue to be conducted in response to the imperative of solidarity, mutual interests and benefits, genuine interdependence, shared responsibility and the partnership in promoting international economic cooperation for development,

Recognizing, in this context, the importance of an enabling environment and sound economic policy at both the national and the international level,

Noting the need to ensure the integrated and coordinated follow-up and implementation by the United Nations system of the outcome of major United Nations conferences and summits,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of continued constructive dialogue and genuine partnership to promote further international economic cooperation for development;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in close consultation with Governments, all relevant parts of the United Nations system and other relevant stakeholders, to propose the modalities, the nature and the timing of such constructive dialogue and genuine partnership for the promotion of international economic cooperation for development for consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation", the sub-item entitled "High-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to it at that session a consolidated report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/191

Adopted at the 90th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/560/Add.4, para. 5)[64]

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[62] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[63] Resolution 51/240, annex.

[64] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by the Islamic Republic of Iran (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

56/191. Implementation of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the importance and continuing validity of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, contained in the annex to its resolution S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, and of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 45/199 of 21 December 1990,

Recalling its resolutions 45/234 of 21 December 1990, 46/144 of 17 December 1991, 47/152 of 18 December 1992, 48/185 of 21 December 1993, 49/92 of 19 December 1994, 51/173 of 16 December 1996, 53/178 of 15 December 1998, 54/206 of 22 December 1999 and 55/190 of 20 December 2000, and the Agenda for Development,[65]

Recalling also the results of all the major United Nations conferences and summit meetings held since the beginning of the 1990s,

Reaffirming the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[66] in particular the targets and commitments relating to development and poverty eradication,

Recalling the outcomes of the special session of the General Assembly to review and address the problem of human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS),[67] the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries,[68] and the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda,[69]

Emphasizing the importance of the other development-oriented meetings to be convened under the auspices of the United Nations in 2002, including the International Conference on Financing for Development, the special session of the General Assembly on children and the World Summit on Sustainable Development,

1. *Expresses regret* that the consultations foreseen in resolution 54/206 could not be held;

2. *Decides* to consider the issue of further development of a new international development strategy during the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly, on the basis of the outcomes of the aforementioned meetings and keeping in mind the outcome of the review of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s;[70]

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session with an overview of the challenges and constraints as well as progress made towards achieving the major development goals and objectives adopted by the United Nations during the past decade;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation", a sub-item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade".

RESOLUTION 56/192

Adopted at the 90th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/561/Add.8, para. 12)[71]

56/192. Status of preparations for the International Year of Freshwater, 2003

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/196 of 20 December 2000, in which it proclaimed 2003 as the International Year of Freshwater,

Recalling also the provisions of Agenda 21,[72] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 adopted at its nineteenth special session[73] and decisions of the Economic and Social Council and those of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its sixth session,[74] relating to freshwater,

Recalling further its resolution 53/199 of 15 December 1998 on the proclamation of international years,

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[65] Resolution 51/240, annex.

[66] See resolution 55/2.

[67] Resolution S-26/2, annex.

[68] A/CONF.191/11.

[69] Resolution S-25/2, annex.

[70] Resolution 46/151, annex, sect. II.

[71] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[72] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[73] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[74] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 9* (E/1998/29).

Reaffirming the goal of reducing by half, between 2000 and 2015, the proportion of people who are unable to reach or to afford safe drinking water,

Noting the efforts for the preparations for the Third World Water Forum, to be held in Japan in March 2003, and for the elaboration of the World Water Development Report,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[75]

1. *Welcomes* the activities undertaken by States, the Secretariat, organizations of the United Nations system that are engaged in inter-agency work related to freshwater and major groups in preparation for the observance of the International Year of Freshwater, 2003, and encourages them to continue their efforts;

2. *Encourages* all Member States, the United Nations system and major groups to take advantage of the Year to raise awareness of the essential importance of freshwater resources for satisfying basic human needs and for health and food production and the preservation of ecosystems, as well as for economic and social development in general, and to promote action at the local, national, regional and international levels, and in this context calls for high priority to be given to the serious freshwater problems facing many regions, especially in the developing countries;

3. *Also encourages* all States, relevant international organizations and major groups to support activities related to the Year, inter alia, through voluntary contributions;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session an interim report on the activities undertaken in preparation for the International Year of Freshwater, 2003.

RESOLUTION 56/193

Adopted at the 90th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/561/Add.8, para. 12)[76]

56/193. Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twenty-first session

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, by which it decided to establish the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Recalling also its resolution 55/200 of 20 December 2000 on the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its sixth special session,

Recalling further the Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme[77] and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[78]

Taking note with appreciation of the progress being made by the United Nations Environment Programme in the preparations for the World Summit on Sustainable Development,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twenty-first session;[79]

2. *Welcomes* the efforts already made to realize the objectives of the Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme,[77] supports the early and full implementation of General Assembly resolution 53/242 of 28 July 1999, and requests that the reports on the work of the Environmental Management Group be made available to Member States and members of specialized agencies;

3. *Reiterates* the invitation to the international environmental governance process initiated by decision 21/21 of 9 February 2001 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme[80] to submit its progress report to the Preparatory Committee for the World Summit on Sustainable Development at its second session, to be held in New York from 28 January to 8 February 2002, and to submit the final results to the Committee at its third session, to be held in New York from 25 March to 5 April 2002, so that it may be fully considered in the preparatory process, and notes with interest the ongoing work of the open-ended intergovernmental group of ministers or their representatives on international environmental governance with respect to the comprehensive policy-oriented assessment of existing institutional weaknesses, as well as future needs and options for strengthened international environmental governance;

4. *Underlines* the need for sufficient financial resources on a stable and predictable basis to ensure the full implementation of the mandate of the Programme, and, within this context, notes ongoing related deliberations;

5. *Notes* the proposal of the Secretary-General to increase United Nations funding for the cost of servicing the

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[75] A/56/189.

[76] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[77] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/52/25), annex, decision 19/1, annex.

[78] See resolution 55/2.

[79] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/56/25).

[80] Ibid., chap. III.

Programme secretariat and the Governing Council from the regular budget;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the resource needs of the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Office at Nairobi under continuous review and to make proposals as needed in the context of the United Nations regular budget, with a view to strengthening the Programme and the Office.

RESOLUTION 56/194

Adopted at the 90th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/561/Add.2, para. 10)[81]

56/194. International cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/200 of 18 December 1997, 53/185 of 15 December 1998, 54/220 of 22 December 1999 and 55/197 of 20 December 2000 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1999/46 of 28 July 1999 and 1999/63 of 30 July 1999, and taking note of Council resolution 2000/33 of 28 July 2000,

Noting that the signing of the memorandum of cooperation between Ecuador and the World Meteorological Organization[82] constitutes a major step in the process for the establishment of an international centre for the study of the El Niño phenomenon,

Noting also the contributions made by regional and global climate-study organizations and specialized Internet information services, which have led to improved scientific understanding and prediction capabilities in the area of climate variability,

Reaffirming the importance of developing strategies at the national, subregional, regional and international levels that aim to prevent, mitigate and repair the damage caused by natural disasters that result from the El Niño phenomenon,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;[83]

2. *Commends* the measures adopted by the host country for the establishment of an international centre for the study of the El Niño phenomenon, and encourages the Government of Ecuador to continue its efforts aimed at the completion of that process;

3. *Encourages* the centre, once established, to strengthen its links with other relevant regional and global climate-study organizations, as well as with Internet information services, in order to ensure an effective and efficient use of the available resources;

4. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General and the relevant United Nations organs, funds and programmes, in particular those taking part in the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, and encourages the international community, to adopt, as appropriate, the necessary measures to support the establishment of the above-mentioned research centre at Guayaquil, Ecuador, and invites the international community to provide scientific, technical and financial assistance and cooperation for that purpose, as well as to strengthen, as appropriate, other centres devoted to the study of the El Niño phenomenon;

5. *Welcomes* the establishment of the working group on climate and disasters, and invites the Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction and the inter-agency secretariat for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction to ensure functional synergies among the working groups dealing with climate variability, social and economic vulnerability, and the effectiveness of early warning systems;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue the full implementation of its resolutions 52/200, 53/185, 54/220 and 55/197 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1999/46, 1999/63 and 2000/33;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution, under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development".

RESOLUTION 56/195

Adopted at the 90th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/561/Add.2, para. 10)[84]

56/195. International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/236 of 22 December 1989, 49/22 A of 2 December 1994, 49/22 B of 20 December 1994, 53/185 of 15 December 1998 and 54/219 of 22 December 1999 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/63 of 30 July 1999, and taking note of Council resolution 2001/35 of 26 July 2001,

Recalling also the forward-looking platform for international concerted disaster reduction, as developed by the

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[81] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[82] A/C.2/56/2, appendix.

[83] A/56/76-E/2001/54.

[84] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction and as expressed in the Yokohama Strategy for a Safer World: Guidelines for Natural Disaster Prevention, Preparedness and Mitigation and its Plan of Action,[85] as well as the Geneva mandate on disaster reduction and the strategy document entitled "A safer world in the twenty-first century: risk and disaster reduction",[86]

Emphasizing the multisectoral, interdisciplinary and cross-cutting nature of natural disaster reduction, and stressing that continued interaction, cooperation and partnerships among the institutions concerned are considered essential to achieve jointly agreed objectives and priorities,

Having considered the current institutional arrangements, as established in its resolution 54/219, with the Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction and the inter-agency secretariat for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, and taking into account the assessment after the first period of operations,[87]

Recognizing that disaster reduction is an important element that contributes to the achievement of sustainable development and that it should be taken into account in the preparatory process for the World Summit on Sustainable Development, to be held at Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002,

Reiterating that natural disasters damage the social and economic infrastructure of all countries, although the long-term consequences of natural disasters are especially severe for developing countries and hamper their sustainable development,

Welcoming the emphasis placed on natural disaster reduction in the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010, adopted by the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held at Brussels from 14 to 20 May 2001,[88]

Recognizing that disaster reduction should be regarded as an important function of the United Nations and should receive continued attention,

Stressing the need for the international community to demonstrate the firm political determination required to utilize scientific and technical knowledge to reduce vulnerability to natural disasters and environmental hazards, taking into account the particular needs of developing countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;[89]

2. *Expresses its deep concern* at the increasing number and scale of natural disasters, which have resulted in massive loss of life and long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences for vulnerable societies throughout the world, in particular in developing countries;

3. *Reaffirms* that the Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction should perform the functions as indicated in the report of the Secretary-General, in particular those of serving as a main forum within the United Nations system for devising strategies and policies for disaster reduction and ensuring complementarity of action by agencies involved in disaster reduction, mitigation and preparedness, decides to review the activities of the Task Force in 2003, and decides also that the inter-agency secretariat for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction should develop collaborative links with appropriate regional disaster reduction organizations;

4. *Decides* that the Task Force should be modified in order to provide for the increased participation and continued membership of regional intergovernmental organizations and key United Nations agencies;

5. *Recognizes* that the framework for action for the implementation of the Strategy,[90] as endorsed by the Task Force, constitutes the basic guide for the implementation of the Strategy, and that the framework shall be periodically reviewed, according to the evolving needs in the field of natural disaster reduction, and urges all relevant bodies within the United Nations system to cooperate fully within the context of the framework;

6. *Stresses* that the inter-agency secretariat for the Strategy should be consolidated and enhanced to perform its functions effectively, in particular to serve as the focal point in the United Nations system for the coordination of disaster reduction and to ensure synergies among the disaster-reduction activities of the United Nations system and regional organizations and activities in socio-economic and humanitarian fields;

7. *Calls upon* Governments to continue to cooperate and coordinate their efforts with the United Nations system, other international organizations, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and other partners, as appropriate, in order to ensure effective synergies in the field of natural disasters, and urges the inter-agency secretariat for the Strategy to develop such synergies, as appropriate;

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[85] A/CONF.172/9, resolution 1, annex I.

[86] Adopted by the programme forum on the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, held at Geneva from 5 to 9 July 1999.

[87] A/56/68–E/2001/653, paras. 54–59.

[88] A/CONF.191/11.

[89] A/56/68-E/2001/63 and Corr.1.

[90] Ibid., para. 14; see also www.unisdr.org.

8. *Invites*, therefore, all Governments and relevant international organizations to give appropriate consideration to the issue of natural disaster reduction in their preparations for the World Summit on Sustainable Development;

9. *Underlines* the importance of adequate financial and administrative resources for the effective functioning of the Task Force and the inter-agency secretariat for the Strategy, under the direct authority of the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs;

10. *Calls upon* Governments to establish national platforms or focal points for disaster reduction, urges the United Nations system to provide appropriate support for those mechanisms, and invites the Secretary-General to strengthen the regional outreach of the inter-agency secretariat for the Strategy in order to ensure such support;

11. *Invites* Governments and relevant organizations of the United Nations system to strengthen national participation, in particular of disaster-prone countries, in the implementation of the Strategy, including through national multisectoral and interdisciplinary platforms, in order to achieve sustainable development goals and objectives, with the full utilization of scientific and technical knowledge, including through capacity-building at all levels and the development and strengthening of global and regional approaches that take into account regional, subregional, national and local circumstances and needs, as well as the need to strengthen the coordination of national emergency response agencies;

12. *Calls upon* Governments to continue to cooperate and coordinate their efforts in the field of natural disasters within the framework for action for the implementation of the Strategy, in line with their respective skills and capacities, from prevention to early warning, response, mitigation, rehabilitation and reconstruction, including through capacity-building at all levels, and the development and strengthening of global and regional approaches that take into account regional, subregional, national and local circumstances and needs, as well as the need to strengthen the coordination of national emergency response agencies in natural disasters;

13. *Recognizes* the urgent need to develop further and make use of the existing scientific and technical knowledge to reduce vulnerability to natural disasters, and emphasizes the need for developing countries to have access to technology so as to tackle natural disasters effectively;

14. *Calls upon* Governments and United Nations agencies to collaborate more closely in the sharing of disaster response and mitigation information, to take full advantage of United Nations emergency information services such as ReliefWeb, as well as the Internet, and to consider other methods for the sharing of information;

15. *Calls upon* the inter-agency secretariat for the Strategy and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat to facilitate the development of better linkages with all relevant actors, including the private sector and financial institutions, in the development of disaster management strategies;

16. *Encourages* the international community to provide the necessary financial resources to the Trust Fund for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction and to provide adequate scientific, technical, human and other resources to ensure adequate support for the inter-agency secretariat for the Strategy and for the Task Force and its working groups;

17. *Requests* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system to support the implementation of the goals of the Strategy, including by seconding technical staff to the inter-agency secretariat for the Strategy;

18. *Endorses* the proposal of the Secretary-General to review the implementation of the Yokohama Strategy for a Safer World: Guidelines for Natural Disaster Prevention, Preparedness and Mitigation and its Plan of Action,[85] within the context of the framework for action for the implementation of the Strategy;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to optimize further and disseminate through all available channels, including handbooks and information systems, the information necessary for the effective management of international cooperation in the fields of disaster prevention, early warning, response, mitigation, rehabilitation and reconstruction;

20. *Reiterates* the need to continue international cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon, within the framework for action for the implementation of the Strategy, as requested by the Economic and Social Council in its resolutions 1999/46 of 28 July 1999 and 2000/33 of 28 July 2000 and by the Assembly in its resolutions 52/200 of 18 December 1997, 53/185 of 15 December 1998, 54/220 of 22 December 1999 and 55/197 of 20 December 2000;

21. *Recognizes* the importance of early warning as an essential element in the culture of prevention, and encourages renewed efforts at all levels to contribute to natural hazard monitoring and impact prediction, the development and transfer of technology, capacity-building for disaster preparedness, the detection of natural hazards and the issuance and communication of early warning, as well as education and professional training, public information and awareness-raising activities, and stresses the need for appropriate action in response to early warning;

22. *Reaffirms* the need to strengthen the international framework for the improvement of early warning systems and disaster preparedness by developing an effective international mechanism for early warning, including the transfer of technology related to early warning to developing countries, which ensures that vulnerable people receive appropriate and timely information, and by expanding and improving existing systems, in particular those under the auspices of the United Nations, as an integral part of the Strategy;

23. *Decides* to maintain the annual observance of the International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction on the second Wednesday of October, as a vehicle to promote a global culture of natural disaster reduction, including prevention, mitigation and preparedness;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including criteria and modalities for the selection of the non-permanent members of the Task Force, and on the progress made in the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development".

RESOLUTION 56/196

Adopted at the 90th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/561/Add.3, para. 9)[91]

56/196. Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/204 of 20 December 2000 and other resolutions relating to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,[92]

Expressing its deep appreciation to the Government of Germany for the generous manner in which it hosted and provided facilities for the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention,

Noting with satisfaction that the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties was held at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 1 to 12 October 2001,

Expressing its deep appreciation to the Government of Switzerland for the organization of the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties and its special events in Geneva,

Welcoming the decision taken by the Council of the Global Environment Facility at its May 2001 session to pursue the designation of land degradation, primarily desertification and deforestation, as a focal area of the Facility, as a means of enhancing its support for the successful implementation of the Convention,

Acknowledging that desertification and drought are problems of a global dimension in that they affect all regions of the world and that joint actions of the international community are needed to combat desertification and/or mitigate the effects of drought, including the integration of strategies for poverty eradication,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[93]

2. *Welcomes* the outcome of the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, in particular the adoption of the Declaration on the Commitments to Enhance the Implementation of the Obligations under the Convention;[94]

3. *Also welcomes* the outcome of the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties;

4. *Notes* the establishment of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention as a subsidiary body of the Conference of the Parties, and invites parties and other actors to participate in the first session of the Committee, which shall be held at Bonn, Germany, from 18 to 29 November 2002, in accordance with Conference of the Parties decision 2/COP.5 of 12 October 2001;[95]

5. *Also notes* that the mandate and functions of the Committee shall be subject to renewal at the seventh session of the Conference of the Parties, in the light of lessons learned during the overall review of the Committee;[96]

6. *Encourages* the conferences of the parties to and the secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[97] the Convention on Biological Diversity,[98] the Convention to Combat Desertification and other international instruments related to environment and sustainable development, as well as relevant organizations, especially the United Nations Environment Programme, with, as appropriate, the involvement of the Environmental Management Group, to continue their work on enhancing mutual complementarities, with full respect for the status of the secretariats of the conventions and the autonomous decision-making prerogatives of the conferences of the parties to the conventions concerned, to strengthen cooperation with a view to facilitating progress in the implementation of those conventions at the international, regional and national levels and to report thereon to their respective conferences of the parties;

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[91] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[92] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[93] A/56/175.

[94] ICCD/COP(4)/11/Add.1, decision 8/COP.4, annex.

[95] See ICCD/COP (5)/11/Add.1.

[96] Ibid., decision 1/COP.5, para. 3.

[97] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[98] See United Nations Environment Programme, *Convention on Biological Diversity* (Environmental Law and Institution Programme Activity Centre), June 1992.

7. *Welcomes* the decision of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention to Combat Desertification to submit to the preparatory process of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, as inputs, the Chairman's summary of the Ministerial and High-level Interactive Dialogue sessions held at the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties, including the challenges of and opportunities in combating desertification, controlling land degradation and mitigating the effects of drought in affected developing countries, as well as those relating to financial resources and achieving sustainable development,[99] and the comprehensive report of the Ad Hoc Working Group for the in-depth review and analysis of reports submitted at the third and fourth sessions of the Conference of the Parties;[100]

8. *Also welcomes* the decision taken by the Council of the Global Environment Facility, under item 7 of the agenda of its meeting in December 2001, to consider at its next meeting proposed amendments to the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility[101] to designate land degradation, primarily desertification and deforestation, as a focal area of the Facility, as a means of enhancing its support for the successful implementation of the Convention, with a view to the Council recommending approval of such amendments by the Assembly of States participating in the Facility at its meeting in October 2002;

9. *Encourages* the Conference of the Parties and the Council and Assembly of the Global Environment Facility to work cooperatively and effectively to facilitate the financing of the full implementation of the Convention by the Facility to achieve the objectives of the Convention in the area of land degradation, primarily desertification and deforestation;

10. *Notes with appreciation* that some affected developing countries have adopted their national, subregional and regional action programmes, and urges affected developing countries that have not yet done so to accelerate the process of elaboration and adoption of their action programmes, with a view to finalizing them as soon as possible;

11. *Calls upon* the international community to contribute to the implementation of those programmes through, inter alia, the conclusion of partnership agreements and through the bilateral and multilateral cooperation programmes that are available to implement the Convention, including contributions from non-governmental organizations and the private sector, and to support the efforts of the developing countries to implement the Convention;

12. *Invites* affected developing countries to place the implementation of their action programmes to combat desertification high among their priorities in their dialogue with their development partners;

13. *Notes with satisfaction* the steps being taken by affected developing countries that are parties to the Convention, with the assistance of international organizations and bilateral development partners, to implement the Convention, and the efforts being made to promote the participation of all actors of civil society in the elaboration and implementation of national action programmes to combat desertification, and in that regard encourages countries to cooperate at the subregional and regional levels, as appropriate;

14. *Welcomes* the strengthened cooperation between the secretariat of the Convention and the Global Mechanism, and encourages further efforts in that regard for the effective implementation of the Convention;

15. *Invites* all parties to pay promptly and in full the contributions required for the core budget of the Convention for the biennium 2002–2003, and urges all parties that have not yet paid their contributions for the year 1999 and/or the biennium 2000–2001 to do so as soon as possible in order to ensure continuity in the cash flow required to finance the ongoing work of the Conference of the Parties, the secretariat and the Global Mechanism;

16. *Calls upon* Governments, multilateral financial institutions, regional development banks, regional economic integration organizations and all other interested organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations and the private sector, to contribute generously to the General Fund, the Supplementary Fund and the Special Fund, in accordance with the relevant paragraphs of the financial rules of the Conference of the Parties,[102] and welcomes the financial support already provided by some countries;

17. *Decides* to include in the calendar of conferences and meetings for the biennium 2002–2003 the sessions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies, including the sixth ordinary session of the Conference of the Parties and the meetings of its subsidiary bodies;

18. *Encourages* the United Nations Development Programme to continue implementing decision 2000/23 of 29 September 2000 of its Executive Board pertaining to the cooperation between the secretariat of the Convention and the United Nations Development Programme in order to mainstream activities to combat desertification at the national, subregional and regional levels;[103]

19. *Approves* the continuation of the current institutional linkage and related administrative arrangements between the

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[99] ICCD/COP(5)/11/Add.1, decision 8/COP.5, annex.

[100] Ibid., decision 3/COP.5, annex.

[101] DP/1994/60, annex.

[102] ICCD/COP(1)/11/Add.1 and Corr.1, decision 2/COP.1, annex, paras. 7–11.

[103] See DP/2000/1, para. 231.

United Nations Secretariat and the secretariat of the Convention for a further five-year period, to be reviewed by the General Assembly and the Conference of the Parties not later than 31 December 2006;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution;

21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa".

RESOLUTION 56/197

Adopted at the 90th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/561/Add.4, para. 6)[104]

56/197. Convention on Biological Diversity

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/201 of 20 December 2000 on the Convention on Biological Diversity,[105] in which it, inter alia, decided to proclaim 22 May, the date of the adoption of the text of the Convention, as the International Day for Biological Diversity,

Recognizing the importance of the adoption by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, in its decision EM-I/3 of 29 January 2000,[106] of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity, the subsequent signature of the Protocol by one hundred and three parties to the Convention by 5 June 2001, and the ratification thereof or accession thereto by nine parties to date,

Expressing its appreciation for the generous offer of the Government of the Netherlands to host the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, and the third meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol, which will be held at The Hague from 8 to 26 April 2002,

Urging the parties to the Convention to undertake thorough preparations to advance progress on all issues that are included in the agenda of the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, as submitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;[107]

2. *Notes* the outcome of the first meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing, which addresses the appropriate access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of its utilization, hosted by the Government of Germany from 22 to 26 October 2001;

3. *Also notes* the outcome of the second meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, held at Nairobi from 1 to 5 October 2001;

4. *Welcomes* the fact that one hundred and eighty-one States and one regional economic integration organization have become parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity,[105] and urges States that have not joined the Convention to become parties to it, without further delay;

5. *Calls upon* parties to the Convention to become parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety[106] as soon as possible;

6. *Encourages* the conferences of the parties to, and the secretariats of, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[108] the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,[109] and other international instruments related to the environment and sustainable development, as well as relevant organizations, especially the United Nations Environment Programme, including, as appropriate, the involvement of the Environmental Management Group, to continue their work on enhancing mutual complementarities, with full respect for the status of the secretariats of the conventions and the autonomous decision-making prerogatives of the conferences of the parties to the conventions concerned, to strengthen cooperation with a view to facilitating progress in the implementation of those conventions at the international, regional and national levels and to report thereon to their respective conferences of the parties;

7. *Welcomes* the decision of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity regarding its programme of work for forest biological diversity, and encourages the parties to and the secretariat of the Convention to cooperate with the United Nations Forum on Forests, inter alia, with regard to respecting, preserving and maintaining the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles, in accordance with article 8 (*j*) and related provisions of the Convention;

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[104] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[105] See United Nations Environment Programme, *Convention on Biological Diversity* Environmental Law and Institution Programme Activity Centre), June 1992.

[106] See UNEP/CBD/ExCOP/1/3 and Corr.1, part two, annex.

[107] See A/56/126.

[108] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[109] Ibid., vol. 1954, No. 33480.

8. *Takes note* of the fact that the provisions of the Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights[110] and the Convention on Biological Diversity are interrelated, in particular with respect to intellectual property rights and relevant provisions of the Convention, and invites the World Trade Organization and the World Intellectual Property Organization, within their respective mandates, to continue to explore this relationship, taking into account the ongoing work in other relevant forums and bearing in mind decision V/26 B of the Conference of the Parties;[111]

9. *Invites* all funding institutions and bilateral and multilateral donors, as well as regional funding institutions and non-governmental organizations, to cooperate with the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity in the implementation of the programme of work;

10. *Requests* the conferences of the parties to the multilateral environmental conventions, when setting the dates of their meetings, to take into consideration the schedule of meetings of the General Assembly and the Commission on Sustainable Development so as to ensure the adequate representation of developing countries at those meetings;

11. *Calls upon* parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity to settle urgently any arrears and to pay their contributions in full and in a timely manner so as to ensure continuity in the cash flows required to finance the ongoing work of the Conference of the Parties, the subsidiary bodies and the Convention secretariat;

12. *Looks forward* to the contribution of the Convention on Biological Diversity to the preparations for the World Summit on Sustainable Development, bearing in mind the decisions taken by the Commission on Sustainable Development at its tenth session;

13. *Invites* the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity to report to the General Assembly on the ongoing work regarding the Convention;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the sub-item entitled "Convention on Biological Diversity".

RESOLUTION 56/198

Adopted at the 90th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/561/Add.5, para. 6)[112]

56/198. Further implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/122 of 19 December 1994 on the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,

Recalling also its resolutions 51/183 of 16 December 1996, 52/202 of 18 December 1997, 53/189 of 15 December 1998, 54/224 of 22 December 1999 and 55/202 of 20 December 2000,

Recalling further the Declaration of Barbados[113] and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[114] adopted by the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,

Recalling the Declaration and review document adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-second special session,[115]

Recalling also the report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on its tenth session,[116]

Recognizing that, within the context of the challenges of development, small island developing States can experience specific problems arising from small size, remoteness, geographical dispersion, vulnerability to natural disasters, fragile ecosystems, constraints on transport and communication, isolation from markets, vulnerability to exogenous economic and financial shocks, limited internal markets, lack of natural resources, limited freshwater supply, heavy dependence on imports and limited commodities, depletion of non-renewable resources and migration,

Recognizing also the efforts of small island developing States to achieve sustainable development and the need to continue to enhance their capacities to participate effectively in the multilateral trading system,

Noting the report of the first workshop of the Alliance of Small Island States on the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,[117] held in Saint Kitts and Nevis from 4 to 6 December 2000,[118] and the report of the third workshop of the Alliance of Small

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[110] Ibid., vol. 1869, No. 31874.

[111] See UNEP/CBD/COP/5/23 and Corr.1, annex III.

[112] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[113] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[114] Ibid., annex II.

[115] See resolution S-22/2, annex.

[116] TD/390.

[117] See UNEP/CBD/ExCOP/1/3 and Corr.1, part two, annex.

[118] A/55/765, annex.

Island States on climate change, energy and preparations for the ninth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, held in Cyprus from 15 to 19 January 2001,[119]

Noting also the significant efforts to implement the Programme of Action at the local, national, regional and international levels and the need for regional and global institutions to continue to supplement the efforts being made at the national level, including through necessary financial support in partnership with the international community,

Acknowledging the efforts of small island developing States to convene, in cooperation with the Small Island Developing States Unit of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, a series of capacity-building workshops targeted at issues of specific relevance to small island developing States,

Welcoming the preparatory activities undertaken at the national and regional levels for the World Summit on Sustainable Development,

Expressing its appreciation to the Government of Jamaica for hosting the first workshop of the Alliance of Small Island States on trade, sustainable development and small island developing States from 12 to 15 December 2001,

Noting the current efforts of the Alliance of Small Island States to organize an interregional preparatory meeting of small island developing States for the World Summit on Sustainable Development, to be held in Singapore from 7 to 11 January 2002, and calls upon all relevant international organizations actively to support the meeting,

Emphasizing the continuing need for the financing of projects that were presented within the context of the implementation of the Programme of Action, inter alia, at the meeting of representatives of donor countries and small island developing States, held in New York from 24 to 26 February 1999,[120]

Noting with appreciation the contribution made by some donor countries towards further implementation of the Programme of Action, and underlining the need for those efforts to be intensified and supplemented by other donor countries and agencies,

Emphasizing the need to complete, without delay, the quantitative and analytical work on the vulnerability index mandated in the review document of the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly, taking into account Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/43 of 24 October 2001, in particular paragraph 6 thereof, and emphasizing the relevance of such work to the work of the Committee for Development Policy on criteria for the identification, including designation and graduation, of least developed countries and its importance to relevant small island developing States,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[121]

2. *Reiterates* the urgent need for strong and effective implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[114] and of the Declaration and review document adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-second special session[115] to assist those States in their efforts to enhance their capacities to achieve sustainable development;

3. *Welcomes* efforts made at the national, subregional and regional levels to implement the Programme of Action;

4. *Invites* the relevant organs and agencies of the United Nations system and the regional commissions and organizations, within their respective mandates, to reflect measures for the implementation of the Programme of Action in their programmes;

5. *Invites* donors, as well as all relevant organs and agencies of the United Nations and other regional and international organizations, to provide appropriate support to the interregional preparatory meeting of small island developing States for the World Summit on Sustainable Development;

6. *Invites* all relevant stakeholders, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to participate fully in the activities identified for the further implementation of and effective follow-up to the Programme of Action;

7. *Urges* all relevant organizations to finalize, as a matter of urgency, the work on the development of a vulnerability index, taking into account the particular circumstances and needs of small island developing States;

8. *Welcomes* the strengthened Small Island Developing States Unit, and requests the Secretary-General to consider ways to strengthen the Unit further, inter alia, by establishing the Small Island Developing States Information Network within the Unit and by assisting small island developing States with, inter alia, project implementation advice and assistance in the identification of short- and long-term capacity needs through coordination with regional and international institutions, and to make proposals in that regard;

9. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to consider further cost-effective ways and means of increasing and improving the United Nations system-wide coordination and dissemination of information on activities in support of small island developing States and the Programme of Action, through the Small Island Developing States Unit, including concrete measures for improving coordination within the United Nations system;

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[119] E/CN.17/2001/11, annex.

[120] See A/S-22/4.

[121] A/56/170.

10. *Welcomes* the contributions of donor countries to the strengthening of the Small Island Developing States Unit and the Small Island Developing States Information Network, and encourages other Member States to make contributions, in particular in support of the Network;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session, under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States";

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/199

Adopted at the 90th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/561/Add.6, para. 9)[122]

56/199. Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/115 of 20 December 1995, 51/184 of 16 December 1996, 52/199 of 18 December 1997 and 54/222 of 22 December 1999, its decision 55/443 of 20 December 2000 and other resolutions relating to the protection of the global climate for present and future generations of mankind,

Noting that most States and one regional economic integration organization have ratified or acceded to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[123]

Remaining deeply concerned that all countries, in particular developing countries, including the least developed countries and small island States, face increased risk from the negative impacts of climate change,

Noting that, to date, the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[124] has attracted forty-five ratifications,

Expressing its deep appreciation to the Government of Morocco for hosting the seventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at Marrakesh, Morocco, from 29 October to 9 November 2001,

Noting the adoption of the Bonn Agreements[125] on the implementation of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action[126] by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, at the second part of its sixth session, held at Bonn, Germany, from 16 to 27 July 2001,

Expressing its appreciation to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change for its excellent work in preparing the Third Assessment Report, and encouraging parties to make full use of the information contained therein,

Taking note of the decision of the Conference of the Parties at its sixth session[127] to approve the continuation of the current institutional linkage of the secretariat of the Convention to the United Nations and related administrative arrangements for a further five-year period, to be reviewed by both the General Assembly and the Conference of the Parties no later than 31 December 2006,

Taking note also of the report of the Secretary-General on the continuation of the institutional linkage of the secretariat of the Convention to the United Nations,[128]

Taking note further of the decision of the Conference of the Parties[127] inviting the General Assembly to decide at its fifty-sixth session on the question of meeting the conference-servicing expenses of the Convention from its regular budget, taking into account the views expressed by Member States,

Noting that, by paragraph (*c*) of its decision 55/443, it decided to include in the calendar of conferences and meetings for the biennium 2002–2003 the sessions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies envisaged for the biennium, in accordance with the decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties,

Taking note of the report of the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[129] which was prepared in response to the invitation of the General Assembly in paragraph (*d*) of its decision 55/443,

1. *Recalls* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[130] in which heads of State and Government resolved to make every effort to ensure the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[124] preferably by the tenth anniversary of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 2002, and to embark on the required reduction of emissions of greenhouse gases, and calls upon States to work cooperatively towards achieving the ultimate

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[122] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[123] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[124] FCCC/CP/1997/7/Add.1, decision 1/CP.3.

[125] FCCC/CP/2001/5, decision 5/CP.6.

[126] FCCC/CP/1998/16/Add.1, decision 1/CP.4.

[127] FCCC/CP/2001/5, decision 6/CP.6.

[128] A/56/385.

[129] See A/56/509.

[130] See resolution 55/2.

objective of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;[123]

2. *Calls upon* all States parties to continue to take effective steps to implement their commitments under the Convention, in accordance with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities;

3. *Stresses* the importance of capacity-building, as well as of developing and disseminating innovative technologies in respect of key sectors of development, in particular energy, and of investment in that regard, including through private sector involvement, market-oriented approaches and supportive public policies, as well as international cooperation, emphasizes that climate change and its adverse impacts have to be addressed through cooperation at all levels, and welcomes the efforts of all parties to implement the Convention;

4. *Takes note* of the Marrakesh Accords,[131] adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at its seventh session, complementing the Bonn Agreements[125] on the implementation of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action,[126] paving the way for the timely entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol;

5. *Takes note with appreciation* of the Marrakesh Ministerial Declaration,[131] adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its seventh session as a contribution to the preparatory process for the World Summit on Sustainable Development;

6. *Encourages* the conferences of the parties to and the secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity[132] and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa[133] and other international instruments related to the environment and sustainable development, as well as relevant organizations, especially the United Nations Environment Programme, including, as appropriate, the involvement of the Environmental Management Group, to continue their work for enhancing mutual complementarities with full respect for the status of the secretariats of the conventions and the autonomous decision-making prerogatives of the conferences of the parties to the conventions concerned, to strengthen cooperation with a view to facilitating progress in the implementation of those conventions at the international, regional and national levels and to report thereon to their respective conferences of the parties;

7. *Approves* the continuation of the institutional linkage of the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to the United Nations, and related administrative arrangements, for a further five-year period;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to review the functioning of that institutional linkage not later than 31 December 2006, in consultation with the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, with a view to making such modifications as may be considered desirable by both parties, and to report thereon to the General Assembly;

9. *Invites* the conferences of the parties to the multilateral environmental conventions, when setting the dates of their meetings, to take into consideration the schedule of meetings of the General Assembly and the Commission on Sustainable Development so as to ensure the adequate representation of developing countries at those meetings;

10. *Invites* the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the work of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the sub-item entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind".

RESOLUTION 56/200

Adopted at the 90th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/561/Add.7, para. 6)[134]

56/200. Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996–2005

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/7 of 16 October 1998, 54/215 of 22 December 1999 and 55/205 of 20 December 2000 on the World Solar Programme 1996–2005,

Recalling also resolution 14 concerning the World Solar Programme 1996–2005, adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its twenty-ninth session in November 1997,[135]

Reaffirming that the convening at Harare on 16 and 17 September 1996 of the World Solar Summit, at which the Harare Declaration on Solar Energy and Sustainable

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[131] See FCCC/CP/2001/13/Add.1.

[132] See United Nations Environment Programme, *Convention on Biological Diversity* (Environmental Law and Institution Programme Activity Centre), June 1992.

[133] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[134] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[135] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Twenty-ninth session, Paris, 21 October–12 November 1997*, vol. 1: *Resolutions*.

Development[136] was adopted and preparations for the World Solar Programme 1996–2005[137] approved, was a step in pursuance of the implementation of Agenda 21,[138] which is a multifaceted and, at the same time, fundamental programme of action for achieving sustainable development,

Emphasizing that the World Solar Programme 1996–2005 is aimed at encompassing all forms of new and renewable energy, including solar, thermal, photovoltaic, biomass, wind, mini-hydro, tidal, ocean and geothermal forms,

Recalling resolution 19 adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its thirtieth session in November 1999,[139] concerning the Global Renewable Energy Education and Training Programme 1996–2005, which constitutes one of the major programmes of universal value of the World Solar Programme 1996–2005,

Reiterating that mutually supportive efforts at the national and international levels are imperative in the pursuit of sustainable development, which includes the provision of financial resources and the transfer of technology for the application of cost-effective energy and the wider use of environment-friendly, renewable energies,

Acknowledging that the General Assembly continues to play an important role in promoting the World Solar Programme 1996–2005,

Acknowledging also that the Commission on Sustainable Development and the Economic and Social Council continue to play a pivotal role as forums for the discussion of new and renewable sources of energy and sustainable development,

Noting the role that the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization continues to play in the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996–2005, in particular its efforts, in association with multilateral partners and national specialized institutions, to enhance bilateral and regional cooperation through the joint organization of regional and subregional business and investment forums,

Welcoming the recommendations of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its ninth session,[140] in particular the references to renewable energy,

Expressing its appreciation for the continued efforts of the Secretary-General in bringing the World Solar Programme 1996–2005 to the attention of relevant sources of funding and technical assistance,

Calling for further action to ensure that the World Solar Programme 1996–2005 is fully integrated into the mainstream of the efforts of the United Nations system towards attaining the objective of sustainable development,

Emphasizing that the achievement of more substantive results in the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996–2005 will require the active involvement of all concerned parties, including Governments, multilateral funding agencies and relevant bodies in the United Nations system,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General concerning concrete action being taken to implement General Assembly resolutions 53/7, 54/215 and 55/205,[141] and welcomes, in particular, the attempt therein to analyse and discuss the obstacles and constraints impeding the promotion of new and renewable sources of energy and options for action to overcome them;

2. *Notes with appreciation* the role that the World Solar Commission continues to play in the mobilization of international support and assistance for the implementation of many of the national high-priority projects on renewable sources of energy included in the World Solar Programme 1996–2005, many of which are being executed with national funding;

3. *Notes* that although significant financial support has been provided by some developed countries that are Members of the United Nations and some intergovernmental organizations, within and outside the United Nations system, in the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996–2005, more action still needs to be taken in this regard;

4. *Encourages* national Governments and relevant stakeholders to make more use of the World Solar Programme 1996–2005 as one of the vehicles to boost the development and utilization of solar energy technologies and all forms of new and renewable energy, including biomass, wind, mini-hydro, tidal, ocean and geothermal forms;

5. *Invites* the international community to support, as appropriate, by, inter alia, providing financial resources, the efforts of developing countries to move towards sustainable patterns of energy production and consumption;

6. *Recognizes* that rural energy services, including their financing, should be designed to maximize local ownership, as appropriate;

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[136] A/53/395, annex, sect. II.

[137] Ibid., annex, sect. V.D.

[138] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[139] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirtieth Session, Paris, 26 October–17 November 1999*, vol. 1: *Resolutions*.

[140] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 9* (E/2001/29).

[141] A/56/129.

7. *Reiterates its call upon* all relevant funding institutions and bilateral and multilateral donors, as well as regional funding institutions and non-governmental organizations, to support, as appropriate, the efforts being made for the development of the renewable energy sector in developing countries on the basis of environment-friendly renewable sources of energy of demonstrated viability, while taking fully into account the development structure of energy-based economies of developing countries, and to assist in the attainment of the levels of investment necessary to expand energy supplies beyond urban areas;

8. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to promote the mobilization of adequate technical assistance and funding and to enhance the effectiveness and the full utilization of existing international funds for the effective implementation of national and regional high-priority projects in the area of renewable sources of energy;

9. *Emphasizes* the need to intensify research and development in support of energy for sustainable development, which will require increased commitment on the part of all stakeholders, including Governments and the private sector, to deploy financial and manpower resources for accelerating research efforts;

10. *Recognizes* that the wider use of available renewable energy technologies requires the diffusion of available technologies on a global scale, including through North-South and South-South cooperation;

11. *Takes note* of the decision of the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization regarding the contribution of the Global Renewable Energy Education and Training Programme 1996–2005 in attaining the objective of sustainable development,[139] and in this context encourages the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to mobilize resources, both human and financial, as mandated, to ensure the effective implementation of the Programme and to make efforts to promote public awareness in all Member States in this regard, with the support of international, regional and national institutions, both public and private;

12. *Invites* the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to make effective the implementation of the Global Renewable Energy Education and Training Programme 1996–2005 in the various regions and to strengthen the implementation of its African chapter;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme, the Global Environment Facility, the United Nations Environment Programme and other relevant organizations, to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the concrete action being taken for the promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the effective implementation of and the mobilization of resources for the World Solar Programme 1996–2005;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996–2005".

RESOLUTION 56/201

Adopted at the 90th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/562/Add.1, para. 6)[142]

56/201. Triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/211 of 22 December 1989, 47/199 of 22 December 1992, 50/120 of 20 December 1995, 52/203 of 18 December 1997, 52/12 B of 19 December 1997 and 53/192 of 15 December 1998, as well as Economic and Social Council resolutions 1999/5 and 1999/6 of 23 July 1999, and 2000/19 and 2000/20 of 28 July 2000, and taking note of agreed conclusions 2001/1 of the Council of 4 July 2001,[143] the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of the Council of 18 July 2001,[144] Council resolution 2001/41 of 26 July 2001 and other relevant resolutions,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration of 8 September 2000[145] and its importance for international development cooperation, including the operational activities for development of the United Nations system, and in particular the development and poverty eradication goals and targets contained therein,

Reaffirming that the operational activities for development of the United Nations system have an important role to play in enabling developing countries to continue to take a lead role in the management of their own development process in a continuously changing global context,

Reaffirming also that the fundamental characteristics of the operational activities of the United Nations system should be, inter alia, their universal, voluntary and grant nature, their neutrality and their multilateralism, as well as their ability to respond to the development needs of developing countries in a flexible manner, and that the operational activities of the United Nations system are carried out for the benefit of recipient countries, at the request of those countries and in accordance with their own policies and priorities for development,

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[142] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

[143] A/56/3, chap. V. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 3*.

[144] Ibid., chap. III, para. 29.

[145] See resolution 55/2.

Stressing that national plans and priorities constitute the only viable frame of reference for the national programming of operational activities for development of the United Nations system and that programmes should be based on such development plans and priorities and should therefore be country-driven,

Bearing in mind that the effectiveness of operational activities should be assessed by their impact on poverty eradication, economic growth and sustainable development of recipient countries as set out in the commitments, goals and targets of the Millennium Declaration and of the major United Nations conferences,

Welcoming the efforts undertaken so far to rationalize and improve the functioning and impact of United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies,

Recognizing that globalization, technological change and the need for the integration of the developing countries and other recipient countries into the world economy represent major challenges and, at the same time, opportunities for their development,

Recognizing also that new technologies, including information and communication technologies, present an opportunity to accelerate development, especially in developing countries, but that the access to those technologies is uneven and that a digital divide still prevails,

Noting that, while the scope of operational activities of the organizations of the United Nations system includes situations where a more flexible response capacity of the system is required, the focus of operational activities should be on actions that have a long-term impact on poverty eradication, economic growth and sustainable development,

Recognizing the urgent and specific needs of low-income countries, in particular the least developed countries,

Emphasizing that developing countries are responsible for their development processes, and in this context stressing the responsibility of the international community, in partnership, to assist developing countries in their national development efforts,

Recognizing that the United Nations development system should take into account the specific needs and requirements of the countries with economies in transition and other recipient countries,

Recalling the role of the Economic and Social Council in providing coordination and guidance to the United Nations system to ensure that policies formulated by the General Assembly, in particular during the triennial policy review of operational activities, are implemented on a system-wide basis in accordance with Assembly resolutions 48/162 of 20 December 1993 and 50/227 of 24 May 1996,

Noting with deep concern the failure to provide the United Nations development system with a critical mass of the core resources required to enable long-term development cooperation towards attaining development goals and targets and towards providing a more integrated development support,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system[146] and on progress in the implementation of the multi-year funding frameworks and evaluation of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework;[147]

2. *Reaffirms* its resolutions 47/199, 50/120, 53/192 and the parts relevant to operational activities for development of its resolution 52/12 B, and stresses the need to implement fully, on the basis of lessons learned, all the elements of those resolutions in a coherent and timely manner, keeping in mind their interlinkages;

3. *Stresses* the primary responsibility of national Governments for their countries' development, and recognizes the importance of national ownership of development programmes;

4. *Emphasizes* that recipient Governments have the primary responsibility for coordinating, on the basis of national strategies and priorities, all types of external assistance, including that provided by multilateral organizations, in order to integrate effectively such assistance into their development process;

5. *Emphasizes also* the need for all organizations of the United Nations development system to enhance their coordination in accordance with their mandates, mission statements and the relevant decisions of their governing bodies, in order to avoid overlapping and duplication and to enhance their complementarity;

6. *Emphasizes further* the need to fulfil the commitments, goals and targets set in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[145] and by the major United Nations conferences, and in that context reiterates the importance of continuously monitoring progress made in that direction;

7. *Stresses* that the United Nations development system, in order to ensure national ownership of its operational activities for development, should integrate its country-level operations with national policies and programmes for

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[146] A/56/320 and Add.1.

[147] A/56/70-E/2001/58 and Add.1 and 2.

development and poverty eradication, including, as appropriate, national poverty reduction strategies, under the leadership of the Government;

8. *Also stresses* that the United Nations development system should assist programme countries in addressing the goals and targets identified in the Millennium Declaration and in the outcomes and commitments of relevant major United Nations conferences, in the context of the current challenges and opportunities of globalization;

9. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken so far to improve the functioning and the impact of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system, and in this regard encourages the organizations of the United Nations system to continue those efforts, with a view to improving further the effectiveness and increasing the relevance of such activities;

I

Role of operational activities in the context of a globalizing world

10. *Stresses* the need for all organizations of the United Nations development system, in accordance with their respective mandates, to focus their efforts at the field level in accordance with the priorities identified by recipient countries and the goals, targets and commitments set in the Millennium Declaration and by the major United Nations conferences;

11. *Recognizes,* in this context, the need for all organizations of the United Nations system to assist programme countries to respond more effectively to the economic and social impact of globalization and to support their efforts to integrate into the world economy, to accelerate their economic growth and development and to reduce their poverty;

12. *Calls upon* the organizations of the United Nations system to strengthen and adapt their strategies and activities and enhance their coordination and collaboration, in order to enhance their supportive role in meeting the commitments, goals and targets of the Millennium Assembly and major United Nations conferences, in particular the development and poverty eradication goals and targets;

13. *Encourages* the United Nations system to support national efforts to acquire the capacities and infrastructure required to mobilize information and communication technologies and put them at the service of development, and encourages all organizations of the system to collaborate with the recently established Information and Communication Technologies Task Force;

II

Funding for operational activities for development of the United Nations system

14. *Stresses* that core resources, inter alia, because of their untied nature, are the bedrock of the operational activities of the United Nations system, and in this regard notes with serious concern the overall decline or stagnation in core resources available to many United Nations funds and programmes, in particular the United Nations Development Programme;

15. *Strongly reaffirms* that the impact of operational activities for development of the United Nations system must be enhanced by, inter alia, a substantial increase in core or regular resources on a predictable, continuous and sustained basis, commensurate with the increasing needs of developing countries, as well as through the full implementation of resolutions 47/199, 48/162, 50/120, 53/192 and the parts relevant to operational activities for development of resolution 52/12 B;

16. *Notes* the efforts of the executive boards and secretariats of the United Nations Development Programme and United Nations Population Fund and of the United Nations Children's Fund to establish multi-year funding frameworks that integrate programme objectives, resources, budgets and outcomes, with the objective of increasing core resources and enhancing their predictability, and in this regard invites them to continue to develop and refine the frameworks as a strategic resource management tool;

17. *Stresses,* in this regard, the continued need for funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations development system to continue to report on the overall results achieved to their executive boards or governing bodies and to the Economic and Social Council;

18. *Notes with regret* that, although significant progress has been achieved with regard to the governance and functioning of the United Nations development system, there has not been, as part of that overall process of change, a significant increase in core resources for operational activities for development;

19. *Underlines* the need to avoid over-dependence on a limited number of donors, emphasizes the importance of shared responsibility in a spirit of partnership, taking into account established official development assistance targets, including targets established at the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, and calls upon donors and countries in a position to do so to increase their contributions to the core or regular resources of United Nations funds and programmes;

20. *Appreciates,* in this context, the efforts of countries, including donor and programme countries, that have increased or maintained their high level of contributions to the core resources of United Nations funds and programmes, and of those that have made multi-year pledges to core resources;

21. *Notes* the increase in non-core resources, including cost-sharing, trust funds and non-traditional sources of financing, as a mechanism to supplement the means of operational activities for development, contributing to an increase in total resources, while recognizing that non-core resources are not a substitute for core resources;

22. *Reaffirms* the need for priority allocation of scarce grant resources to programmes and projects in low-income countries, in particular the least developed countries;

23. *Requests* that the establishment of new trust funds by United Nations funds and programmes be done in accordance with their mandates, mission statements and the relevant decisions of their governing bodies, and that such new trust funds, to the extent possible, be multi-donor in nature and not detrimental to core or regular resources;

24. *Notes*, in this context, the contributions of private sources, which can supplement but cannot substitute for contributions of Governments, to finance or extend programmes implemented within existing guidelines of United Nations funds and programmes;

25. *Stresses* the need for continuous overall improvement in the effectiveness, efficiency, management and impact of the United Nations system in delivering its development assistance, and welcomes steps that have been taken to that end;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit, for consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session, a report presenting options alternative to the current modality of the annual United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities, including a regular pledging event, taking into account the funding sessions convened under the multi-year funding frameworks, the needs of other agencies of the United Nations system, appropriate timing and options to enhance public support for operational activities for development of the United Nations system, including through the proposed options;

27. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to consider, at its substantive session of 2003, the conclusions reached at the present triennial policy review on resources for operational activities for development, reviewing the progress made on the issue of funding of development cooperation activities of the United Nations system;

III

Capacity-building

28. *Stresses* that capacity-building and its sustainability should be explicitly articulated as a goal of technical assistance provided by operational activities of the United Nations system, with the aim of strengthening national capacities, and that the technical skills profiles of country offices should be regularly assessed to ensure effective capacity-building of the recipient countries, and requests United Nations organizations to review their efforts in the field of capacity-building and to report, through the Secretary-General, to the Economic and Social Council, at its substantive session of 2002, on the results achieved in this area;

29. *Also stresses* the importance of disseminating, to the fullest extent possible, the expertise acquired through the technical assistance provided by operational activities for development of the United Nations system in the programme countries;

30. *Reiterates* that the United Nations system should use, to the fullest extent possible and practicable, available national expertise and indigenous technologies in the implementation of operational activities, and also reiterates its call for the development of common guidelines at the field level for the recruitment, remuneration and training of national project personnel, including national consultants, for the formulation and implementation of development projects and programmes supported by the United Nations development system;

31. *Requests* the United Nations system to enhance the capacity of national Governments to coordinate the external assistance received from the international community, including from the United Nations system;

32. *Calls upon* the organizations of the United Nations development system to support the strengthening of the capacity of Governments to establish databanks and carry out poverty assessments at the country level;

IV

Common country assessment and United Nations Development Assistance Framework

33. *Notes* that, while progress has been made since the introduction of the common country assessment and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework in its pilot phase, there still is a need to continue to improve the preparatory process and the quality of those instruments, inter alia, on the basis of the recommendations of the external evaluation of the common country assessment and the Framework, as reflected in the report of the Secretary-General[147] and his recommendations,[148] with a view to ensuring their effectiveness;

34. *Requests* the United Nations system to conduct the common country assessment and the Framework processes as efforts to improve support for national development priorities and policies, and stresses that full governmental participation and leadership is required at all stages of those processes;

35. *Stresses* the need to ensure the full and active participation of the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system in the preparation of the common country assessment and the Framework;

36. *Encourages* the United Nations system to ensure full and active system-wide collaboration and coherence in

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[148] See A/56/320.

developing the common country assessment and the Framework processes;

37. *Recognizes* the need to ensure that lessons learned in the elaboration of the common country assessment and the Framework are systematically shared within the United Nations system and with Governments of programme countries as well as other development partners;

38. *Also recognizes* the common country assessment as a common analytical instrument for the United Nations development system which takes into account national priorities and needs as well as the commitments, goals and targets set in the Millennium Declaration and by the major United Nations conferences;

39. *Further recognizes* that the common country assessment can also be used by recipient countries in formulating their own national policies;

40. *Recognizes* that the Framework, where it exists, is the common planning framework for the development operations of the United Nations system at the country level, consisting of common objectives and strategies of cooperation, a programme resource framework and proposals for follow-up, monitoring and evaluation;

41. *Urges* the organizations of the United Nations system to ensure consistency and complementarity of country programmes and other similar instruments used in individual organizations of the system with the approved Framework;

42. *Notes* the role that the Framework should play to facilitate the contribution of the United Nations system to the integrated and coordinated implementation of the Millennium Declaration and the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits at the country level and to provide a more coherent and integrated response by the United Nations system to national development priorities;

43. *Also notes* the importance of closer consultation in the formulation of the common country assessment and the Framework, among national Governments, relevant United Nations development agencies, including specialized agencies, and other relevant stakeholders;

44. *Encourages* greater cooperation among the World Bank, regional development banks and all funds and programmes, taking into account their respective competencies, mandates and comparative advantages, with a view to achieving increased complementarity and better division of labour, as well as enhanced coherence in their sectoral activities, building on the existing arrangements and in full accordance with the priorities of the recipient Government, and in this regard emphasizes the importance of ensuring, under the leadership of national Governments, greater consistency between the strategic frameworks developed by the United Nations funds, programmes and agencies and the Bretton Woods institutions, and the national poverty reduction strategies, including the poverty reduction strategy papers, where they exist;

45. *Urges* the organizations of the United Nations system, when the common country assessment and the Framework are undertaken, to ensure that measures are adopted to simplify and harmonize country assessment procedures and programming so as to reduce transaction costs and avoid additional procedural requirements and workload for recipient countries and United Nations country teams;

46. *Encourages* bilateral donors and the United Nations system to coordinate their efforts more actively at the field level, under the leadership of recipient Governments, inter alia, by using the common country assessment;

47. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States, to undertake an evaluation of the progress of the common country assessment and Framework processes and their impact on the field of operational activities, as an integral part of the next triennial policy review of operational activities, and to submit a report, through the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2004, on the results of such an evaluation, including lessons learned and recommendations made, for consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session;

V

Evaluation of operational activities for development

48. *Emphasizes* the importance of the monitoring and evaluation of operational activities of the United Nations system in order to enhance their effectiveness and impact, and reiterates that the monitoring and evaluation process of operational activities, including, where appropriate, joint evaluations by the United Nations system, should be impartial and independent, under the overall leadership of the Government;

49. *Reiterates* the need to strengthen the capacities of the recipient countries to perform effective programme, project and financial monitoring, as well as impact evaluations of operational activities funded by the United Nations, and underlines the importance of promoting, under the leadership of Governments, greater collaboration on questions relating to evaluation among recipient Governments and the United Nations development system, in particular the members of the United Nations Development Group, at the country level;

50. *Recognizes* that a comprehensive and participatory approach to monitoring and evaluation calls for a closer involvement of national authorities and civil society in the monitoring and evaluation of the effectiveness and impact of operational activities, in order to ensure that the results of those evaluations are utilized to improve operational activities for development and their impact;

51. *Notes* that coordination activities, though beneficial, represent transaction costs that are borne by both recipient countries and the organizations of the United Nations system, and emphasizes the need for their continuous evaluation and for an analysis and assessment of costs compared with the total programme expenditures on operational activities for development in order to ensure maximum efficiency and feasibility;

52. *Takes note* of the impact evaluations of capacity-building and poverty eradication undertaken according to resolution 53/192, and requests the organizations of the United Nations system to review the conclusions of those evaluations and the lessons learned and to incorporate them, in the light of their own experience, into their operational activities for development;

53. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide, in the context of the triennial comprehensive policy review, an overall assessment of the effectiveness of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system and of the functioning of the United Nations development system at the country level, and to submit to the Economic and Social Council, at its substantive session of 2002, in consultation with Member States and on the basis of the experience acquired with the impact evaluation studies, suggestions on how to strengthen the modalities and enhance the approach for such an assessment, in particular in the areas identified in the present resolution;

54. *Reiterates* the need for recipient Governments concerned to be fully and effectively involved in the assessment of the effectiveness of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

55. *Requests* the United Nations system at the country level to support those Governments that intend to undertake capacity-building impact evaluations themselves, as and when required;

56. *Reiterates* the need for the United Nations system to strengthen its efforts, in consultation with recipient countries, to ensure that the lessons learned from both monitoring and evaluation exercises are systematically applied to programming processes at the operational level and that evaluation criteria are built into all projects and programmes at their design stage, requests the Secretary-General to carry out an impartial and independent assessment of the extent to which the United Nations funds, programmes and agencies at the field level learn lessons from their evaluations and to formulate proposals on how to improve the feed-back mechanisms at the field level, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2003 in this regard;

VI

Simplification and harmonization of rules and procedures

57. *Reaffirms* that simplification and harmonization of procedures, as well as their decentralization, should support improved organizational efficiency and effectiveness and be responsive to the needs of recipient countries;

58. *Notes* the progress achieved in the harmonization of programming cycles, the harmonization of the programme approval process and the simplification and harmonization of rules and procedures, with the assistance of the United Nations Development Group, and calls upon the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system to continue to improve coordination efforts by taking further steps to enhance and ensure the sustainability of that process;

59. *Emphasizes* that the simplification and harmonization of rules and procedures should aim at reducing, where appropriate, the complexities and diversity of requirements, which still place an enormous burden on the recipient countries through high transaction costs, and that innovations in this area should achieve, in their implementation, the objective of reducing the administrative and financial costs to the recipient country as well as to the United Nations system;

60. *Requests* the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system to examine ways to simplify further their rules and procedures and, in this context, to accord the issue of simplification and harmonization high priority and to take concrete steps in the following areas: the decentralization and delegation of authority; the financial regulations; the procedures for implementing programmes and projects and, in particular, the requirements in terms of monitoring and reporting; the common shared services at country offices; and the recruitment, training and remuneration of national project personnel;

61. *Requests* the funds and programmes of the United Nations system to submit to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2002 a programme of work for full simplification and harmonization in the above-mentioned areas, to be completed before the end of 2004, including provisions to phase out redundant rules and procedures, benchmarks, responsibilities, as well as a timetable to monitor the progress made towards reaching that target;

62. *Requests* the Executive Committee of the United Nations Development Group to facilitate the definition of the above-mentioned agenda and its implementation;

63. *Requests* the funds and programmes to provide, in their annual reports to the Economic and Social Council, specific information on the progress achieved in reaching the above-mentioned target;

64. *Invites* the executive boards and governing bodies of the funds, programmes and specialized agencies to assess regularly the progress achieved in the area of simplification and harmonization of rules and procedures;

65. *Requests* the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination[149] to address the requirements for further simplification and harmonization of procedures;

VII

Resident coordinator system

66. *Reaffirms* that the resident coordinator system, within the framework of national ownership, has a key role to play in the effective and efficient functioning of the United Nations system at the country level, including in the formulation of common country assessments and United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks, and is a key instrument for the efficient and effective coordination of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system, and requests the United Nations system, including the funds and programmes, the specialized agencies and the Secretariat, to enhance support to the resident coordinator system;

67. *Appreciates* efforts, including through the United Nations Development Group, to improve further the resident coordinator system and the progress achieved so far in broadening the pool of resident coordinators, improving their gender balance, using competency assessments to select resident coordinator candidates, and implementing improved staff training and annual performance appraisals, and urges the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system to make further efforts in that direction, including through appropriate training and recruitment of qualified staff with the required professional skills and backgrounds;

68. *Encourages* the funds, programmes and specialized agencies to make full use of the United Nations Staff College as an institution for system-wide knowledge management, training and learning;

69. *Encourages* enhanced dialogue, feedback, participation and interaction between the resident coordinator on the one hand, and the specialized agencies, small technical agencies, the regional commissions and organizations of the United Nations system without field level representation on the other, including through a wider use of information and communication technologies;

70. *Encourages* the international financial institutions and other development partners to support the resident coordinator system, including through enhanced dialogue, in addressing national development objectives;

71. *Recognizes* the need for the resident coordinator system to interact more effectively and substantively with the Government of the recipient country, as well as with civil society and other relevant stakeholders, as appropriate;

72. *Requests* the resident coordinator system to assist Governments in their efforts towards implementation of the commitments, goals and targets set in the Millennium Declaration and by the major United Nations conferences, and encourages further work by the country-level theme groups;

73. *Requests* all organizations of the United Nations system, including those with no field-level representation and the regional commissions, to continue to improve and strengthen the resident coordinator system through their support to and active participation in that system, on the basis of their respective mandates and in close consultation with the national Government;

VIII

United Nations Development Group

74. *Recognizes* the progress achieved towards a more coherent United Nations performance in the development field in the past three years, as reflected by a new culture of shared responsibility, cooperation and coordination among the members of the United Nations Development Group, and in particular the role of the Executive Committee of the Group;

75. *Requests* the member organizations of the United Nations Development Group, in particular the member organizations represented in its Executive Committee, to continue to support and actively participate in the work of the Group;

IX

Planning, programming and implementation

76. *Decides* that, with the agreement of the host country, the United Nations development system should assist national Governments in creating an enabling environment in which the links among national Governments, the United Nations development system, civil society, national non-governmental organizations and the private sector involved in the development process are strengthened, with a view to seeking new and innovative solutions to development problems, in accordance with national policies and priorities;

77. *Encourages* greater cooperation among the World Bank, regional development banks and all funds and programmes with a view to achieving increased complementarity and better division of labour as well as enhanced coherence in their sectoral activities, building on the existing arrangements and in full accordance with the priorities of the recipient Government;

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[149] Formerly known as the Administrative Committee on Coordination (see Economic and Social Council decision 2001/321 of 24 October 2001).

78. *Recognizes* that the diversity of programming procedures of the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system results from the diversity of their mandates and the decisions of their respective governing bodies, and, that notwithstanding, calls upon those organizations to intensify their efforts to utilize all avenues for stronger cooperation and coordination at the headquarters level, which should complement similar coordination efforts at the country level, and urges them to keep countries fully informed of decisions taken at headquarters;

79. *Notes* the progress achieved in the area of common premises and shared services at the country level within the United Nations system, reaffirms the need to take fully into account cost-benefit studies as called for in relevant resolutions, and encourages further implementation of such initiatives, where appropriate, while ensuring that there will be no additional burden imposed on host countries;

80. *Recognizes* that the utilization of advanced information and communication technologies could also provide the necessary platform for more coordination and cohesion at the field level;

81. *Encourages* the use of information technologies as a means to support more effectively the delivery of development cooperation by the United Nations system, and therefore calls for the urgent harmonization of the information technology platforms utilized by the United Nations system, at both the field and headquarters levels;

X

Humanitarian assistance

82. *Reiterates* that the phases of relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development are generally not consecutive but often overlap and occur simultaneously, and notes the urgent need to develop, through a strategic framework, when appropriate, a comprehensive approach to countries in crisis, notes that the development of such a comprehensive approach must involve national authorities as well as the United Nations system, donors and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and that national authorities must take a leading role in all aspects of the recovery plan, notes in this context the need for an early application of developmental tools in humanitarian emergencies, and takes note with appreciation of the recommendations included in the report of the Secretary-General[146] in this regard;

83. *Expresses its appreciation* to those countries which have substantially contributed to humanitarian assistance during natural and man-made disasters;

84. *Stresses* that contributions to humanitarian assistance should not be provided at the expense of development assistance and that sufficient resources for humanitarian assistance should be made available by the international community;

XI

Gender

85. *Welcomes* the progress achieved in gender mainstreaming in operational activities, and encourages further work in the areas of equitable access to financial and productive resources to ensure a reversal in the feminization of poverty;

86. *Encourages* the continuing efforts to improve the gender balance on appointments within the United Nations system at the headquarters and the country level in positions that affect operational activities;

87. *Calls* for renewed and accelerated efforts in gender mainstreaming in the framework of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system in all fields, in particular in support of poverty eradication, and encourages the empowerment of women as a priority for operational activities for development;

XII

Regional dimensions of operational activities

88. *Reiterates* the growing need for incorporating the regional and subregional dimensions, where appropriate, in the operational activities for development of the United Nations system, and encourages the resident coordinators, in close consultation with Governments, to secure the greater involvement of the regional commissions, taking into account their agreed mandates and work programmes, in the common country assessment and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, as appropriate;

XIII

South-South cooperation/economic and technical cooperation among developing countries

89. *Reiterates* that South-South cooperation, including technical and economic cooperation among developing countries, offers viable opportunities for the development of developing countries, and in this context requests the executive boards of the funds and programmes to review, with a view to considering an increase, the allocation of resources for activities involving technical cooperation among developing countries;

90. *Requests* the United Nations system to take appropriate measures to improve the effective incorporation of technical cooperation among developing countries into their programmes and projects, and to intensify efforts towards mainstreaming the modality of technical cooperation among developing countries, including through support for the activities of the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among

Developing Countries, and encourages other relevant international institutions to take similar measures;

XIV

Follow-up

91. *Reaffirms* that the governing bodies of the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system should take appropriate action for the full implementation of the present resolution, and requests the executive heads of those funds, programmes and specialized agencies to submit a yearly progress report to their governing bodies on measures taken and envisaged for the implementation of the present resolution, as well as appropriate recommendations;

92. *Invites* the executive boards of the funds and programmes of the United Nations system to ensure that the heads of those funds and programmes include in their annual reports to the Economic and Social Council, prepared in accordance with Council resolution 1994/33 of 28 July 1994, a thorough analysis of problems encountered and lessons learned, with emphasis on issues arising from the implementation of the reform programme of the Secretary-General, the triennial policy review and the follow-up to the Millennium Declaration and major United Nations conferences, so as to allow the Council to fulfil its coordinating role;

93. *Reiterates* the provisions of its resolutions 48/162, 50/227 and 52/12 B which detail the respective functions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the executive boards of the funds and programmes of the United Nations system, and encourages the Economic and Social Council, within the context of its institutional role, to provide overall guidance to the United Nations system on operational activities for development;

94. *Requests* the Secretary-General, after consultation with the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, to submit a progress report to the Economic and Social Council, at its substantive session of 2002, on an appropriate management process, containing clear guidelines, targets, benchmarks and time frames for the full implementation of the present resolution;

95. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council, during the operational activities segment of its substantive sessions of 2002 and 2003, to examine the operational activities of the United Nations system in order to evaluate the implementation of the present resolution with a view to ensuring its full implementation;

96. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session, through the Economic and Social Council, a comprehensive analysis of the implementation of the present resolution in the context of the triennial policy review, and to make appropriate recommendations.

RESOLUTION 56/202

Adopted at the 90th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/562/Add.2, para. 11)[150]

56/202. Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries

The General Assembly,

Stressing that South-South cooperation, as an important element of international cooperation for development, offers viable opportunities for developing countries in their individual and collective pursuit of sustained economic growth and sustainable development, in accordance with relevant General Assembly resolutions and recent United Nations conferences, and for ensuring their effective and meaningful participation in the newly emerging global economic system,

Recognizing that developing countries have the primary responsibility for promoting and implementing economic and technical cooperation among themselves, and reiterating the need for the international community to support the efforts of the developing countries to expand South-South cooperation through the modality of economic and technical cooperation among developing countries,

Reaffirming its resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978, in which it endorsed the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries,[151] resolution 46/159 of 19 December 1991 on technical cooperation among developing countries, resolution 49/96 of 19 December 1994 on a United Nations conference on South-South cooperation and resolutions 50/119 of 20 December 1995, 52/205 of 18 December 1997 and 54/226 of 22 December 1999 on economic and technical cooperation among developing countries, as well as other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council on economic and technical cooperation among developing countries,

Recalling the principles and objectives embodied in the Caracas Programme of Action, adopted at the High-level Conference on Economic Cooperation among Developing Countries, held at Caracas in May 1981,[152] the San José Declaration and Plan of Action, adopted by the Group of 77 at the South-South Conference on Trade, Investment and Finance, held at San José from 13 to 15 January 1997,[153] the Bali

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[150] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[151] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August–12 September 1978* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.II.A.11 and corrigendum), chap. I.

[152] A/36/333 and Corr.1, annex.

[153] A/C.2/52/8, annex.

Declaration and the Bali Plan of Action on Regional and Subregional Economic Cooperation of the Developing Countries, adopted by the Group of 77 High-level Conference on Regional and Subregional Economic Cooperation of the Developing Countries, held in Bali, Indonesia, from 2 to 5 December 1998,[154] and the Declaration of the South Summit and the Havana Programme of Action, adopted by the South Summit of the Group of 77, held at Havana from 10 to 14 April 2000,[155] which accorded South-South cooperation high priority in order for developing countries to meet new development challenges, as well as other relevant declarations and plans of action,

Taking note of the Ministerial Declaration adopted by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Group of 77 at their twenty-fifth annual meeting, held in New York on 16 November 2001,[156] in which the increased importance and relevance of South-South cooperation was emphasized,

Taking note also of the Tehran Consensus, adopted at the Tenth Meeting of the Intergovernmental Follow-up and Coordination Committee on Economic Cooperation among Developing Countries of the Group of 77, held at Tehran from 18 to 22 August 2001,[157] which called for consolidating the South-South platform, building stronger South institutions at the global level, bridging the knowledge and information gap, building broad-based partnerships and mobilizing global support for South-South cooperation,

1. *Endorses* the report of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries on its twelfth session[158] and the decisions adopted by the High-level Committee at that session;[159]

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the state of South-South cooperation;[160]

3. *Notes with satisfaction* the significant increase and expanded use of South-South cooperation by developing countries as an important and effective instrument of international cooperation, and in this connection urges developing countries in a position to do so to intensify technical and economic cooperation initiatives at the regional and interregional levels in areas such as health, education, training, agriculture, science and new technologies, and in particular information and communication technologies;

4. *Reiterates* that South-South cooperation should be viewed not as a substitute for but rather as a complement to North-South cooperation, and, in that connection, notes with appreciation the increasing number of developed countries and development foundations supporting South-South cooperation activities through a variety of triangular arrangements, including direct support or cost-sharing arrangements, joint research and development projects and third-country training programmes;

5. *Emphasizes* the need for concerted action by developing countries and their development partners, including relevant international organizations, with a view to strengthening cooperation and collaboration among developing countries at the subregional, regional and interregional levels;

6. *Notes with appreciation* the contributions made by a number of countries to the Voluntary Trust Fund for the Promotion of South-South Cooperation and to the Perez-Guerrero Trust Fund for Economic and Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, and invites all countries to contribute to the trust funds in support of a revitalized South-South platform that is designed to benefit developing countries, especially the least developed, landlocked and small island developing countries;

7. *Recognizes* the need to strengthen institutions of the South, including policy research and development institutions and centres of excellence, especially at the regional and interregional levels, with a view to making more effective use of the institutional capacity of the South through, inter alia, improved South-South knowledge-sharing, networking, capacity-building and flow of information and policy analysis and coordination among developing countries on major development issues of common concern;

8. *Requests* all organizations and agencies of the United Nations development system to make concerted and intensified efforts to effectively mainstream the use of South-South cooperation by giving such cooperation appropriate consideration in the design, formulation and implementation of their regular programmes;

9. *Calls upon* all relevant United Nations organizations and multilateral institutions to consider increasing allocations of human, technical and financial resources for South-South cooperation, and in this context takes note of decision 2001/2 of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Population Fund,[161] in which the Board requested the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to consider reviewing, in the context of the successor programming arrangements, the allocation of additional resources for activities involving technical cooperation among developing countries, taking into account the overall financial situation and the need for appropriate resources for other activities;

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[154] A/53/739, annexes I and II.

[155] A/55/74, annexes I and II.

[156] A/56/647, annex.

[157] A/56/358 and Corr.1, annex.

[158] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 39* (A/56/39).

[159] Ibid., annex I.

[160] A/56/465.

[161] See DP/2001/11, para. 155.

10. *Recognizes* the need for raising public awareness of and support for South-South cooperation as a dynamic form of international development cooperation which can give real content to the concept of ownership and partnership, and, for this reason, takes note of the Tehran Consensus proposal to launch the first international decade on South-South cooperation and the United Nations day for South-South cooperation;[162]

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General, through coordination of the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries of the United Nations Development Programme and in consultation with relevant organizations and agencies of the United Nations system and other relevant institutions in the South, to include in the report to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session concrete measures for promoting and facilitating South-South cooperation, taking into account all relevant initiatives and proposals in this regard;

12. *Reiterates its request* to the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to ensure that the separate identity of the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries is maintained and that the Unit is supported so that it may fully implement its mandate and responsibilities as a focal point of the United Nations system for South-South cooperation;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the sub-item entitled "Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries", and requests the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to submit to it at that session a comprehensive report on the state of South-South cooperation and the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/203

Adopted at the 90th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/563, para. 9)[163]

56/203. International migration and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development adopted at Cairo,[164] in particular chapter X on international migration, and the key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action, set out in the annex to General Assembly resolution S-21/2 of 2 July 1999, in particular section II.C on international migration, as well as the relevant provisions contained in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development,[165] the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,[166] the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women[167] and the outcome documents of the twenty-fourth[168] and twenty-fifth[169] special sessions of the General Assembly,

Recalling also its resolutions 49/127 of 19 December 1994, 50/123 of 20 December 1995, 52/189 of 18 December 1997 and 54/212 of 22 December 1999 on international migration and development, as well as Economic and Social Council decision 1995/313 of 27 July 1995,

Reaffirming the continuing validity of the principles set forth in the international instruments regarding the protection of human rights, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[170] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[171] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[172] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[173]

Recalling that heads of State and Government, gathered at the United Nations Millennium Summit from 6 to 8 September 2000, committed themselves to respect for all internationally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development,[174]

Recalling also that heads of State and Government at the United Nations Millennium Summit resolved to take measures, inter alia, to ensure respect for and protection of the human rights of migrants, migrant workers and their families, to eliminate the increasing acts of racism and xenophobia in many societies and to promote greater harmony and tolerance in all societies,

Reaffirming that the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council should carry out their respective responsibilities as entrusted to them in the Charter of the United Nations, as well as by the relevant United Nations conferences of the 1990s, in the formulation of policies and the provision of guidance to and coordination of United Nations activities in the field of population and development, including activities on international migration,

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[162] See A/56/358 and Corr.1, annex, sect. 5.

[163] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[164] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[165] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[166] Ibid., annex II.

[167] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[168] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

[169] Resolution S-25/2, annex.

[170] Resolution 217 A (III).

[171] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[172] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[173] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[174] See resolution 55/2.

Noting the need for the relevant United Nations organizations and other international organizations to enhance their financial and technical support to developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition to ensure that migration contributes to development,

Recognizing the diversity of views expressed by the respondents to the survey regarding the question of convening a United Nations conference on international migration, its scope, form and agenda,[175] which represented 41 per cent of the full United Nations membership, and that forty-seven respondents were in favour of convening a conference, five were partially in favour and twenty-six were against,

Noting in particular the need for more migration data, analysis of factors influencing international migration and of its impact, and a better understanding of the complex interrelationships between migration and development,

Noting the critical role of the existing forums within the United Nations system in addressing the issues of international migration and development, including through the Commission on Population and Development, the Commission on Human Rights, the Committee for Development Policy, the International Labour Organization and other relevant key organizations,

Noting with appreciation the numerous meetings and conferences convened relating to migration and development,[176] in particular in the context of regional cooperation,

Noting the work undertaken, under the International Migration Policy Programme, by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, the International Organization for Migration and the United Nations Population Fund, in partnership with the International Labour Office, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and other relevant international and regional institutions, with a view to strengthening the capacity of Governments to manage migration flows at national and regional levels and thus to foster greater cooperation among States towards orderly migration,

Noting also the work of the Secretariat in the field of migration and development,

Aware that, among other important factors, both domestic and international, the widening economic and social gap between and among many countries and the marginalization of some countries in the global economy, due in part to the uneven impact of the benefits of globalization and liberalization, have contributed to large flows of people between and among countries and to the intensification of the complex phenomenon of international migration,

Aware also that, in spite of the existence of an already established body of principles, there is a need to make further efforts to ensure that the human rights and dignity of all migrants and their families are respected and protected and that it is desirable to improve the situation of all documented migrants and their families,

Recognizing the importance, from an analytical and operational point of view, of identifying the existing linkages among the social, economic, political and cultural factors related to international migration and development and of the need for comprehensive, coherent and effective policies on international migration based on the spirit of genuine partnership and common understanding,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[177]

2. *Urges* Member States and the United Nations system to strengthen international cooperation in the area of international migration and development in order to address the root causes of migration, especially those related to poverty, and to maximize the benefits of international migration to those concerned;

3. *Encourages*, where relevant, interregional, regional and subregional mechanisms to continue to address the question of migration and development;

4. *Calls upon* all relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations, within their continuing mandated activities, to continue to address the issue of international migration and development and to provide appropriate support for interregional, regional and subregional processes and activities on international migration and development, with a view to integrating migration issues in a more coherent way within the broader

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[175] See A/54/207.

[176] Including the European Conference on Migration, held at Brussels on 16 and 17 October 2001; the International Symposium on Migration: Towards Regional Cooperation on Irregular/Undocumented Migration, held at Bangkok from 21 to 23 April 1999, which adopted the Bangkok Declaration on Irregular Migration (see A/C.2/54/2, annex); the Regional Conference to Address the Problems of Refugees, Displaced Persons, Other Forms of Involuntary Displacement and Returnees in the Countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and Relevant Neighbouring States, held at Geneva on 30 and 31 May 1996; the Regional Conference on Migration in North and Central America; regional migration policy capacity-building and cooperation meetings organized and planned by the International Migration Policy Programme; the Mediterranean Conference on Population, Migration and Development, held at Palma de Mallorca, Spain, from 15 to 17 October 1996; and the Technical Symposium on International Migration and Development of the Administrative Committee on Coordination Task Force on Basic Social Services for All, held at The Hague from 29 June to 3 July 1998.

[177] A/56/167.

context of the implementation of agreed economic and social development programmes;

5. *Encourages* Governments of countries of origin, countries of transit and countries of destination to increase cooperation on issues related to migrations and to engage in further dialogue, including through relevant subregional, regional and international processes and organizations, as appropriate, including on the question of the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development;

6. *Calls upon* the United Nations, in collaboration with other relevant organizations and agencies, to provide support for dialogue involving Governments and other relevant stakeholders on international migration and development issues;

7. *Encourages* the international community, including donor countries, relevant United Nations bodies and other relevant international organizations and the private sector to provide support, including financial and technical support, for data collection and greater empirical research by Member States, in particular developing countries, and the relevant bodies of the United Nations system and other relevant international organizations on the causes and patterns of migration, including on irregular migration and trafficking, as well as its social, economic and demographic impacts, and for documenting and disseminating information on the successful management of all aspects of migration;

8. *Invites* Governments, with the assistance of the international community, where appropriate, to seek to make the option of remaining in one's country viable for all people, in particular through efforts to achieve sustainable development, leading to a better economic balance between developed and developing countries;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to solicit, one additional time, the views of Member States that have not responded to the survey requested in pursuance of resolution 52/189, as well as those of the International Labour Organization, the International Organization for Migration and other relevant organizations, both within and outside the United Nations system, and their views on his report submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session,[177] bearing in mind various regional processes, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to initiate or continue appropriate action in consultation with regional commissions in order to ensure the carrying out of interregional activities, with the contribution of the relevant actors on issues relating to international migration and development, taking into account, inter alia, the report of the Secretary-General, and encourages the United Nations bodies and other appropriate international organizations to provide support to such activities;

11. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution that will, inter alia, update the lessons learned, as well as best practices on migration management and policies, from the various activities relating to international migration and development that have been carried out at the regional and interregional levels, and submit action-oriented recommendations for the consideration of the Assembly;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session a sub-item entitled "International migration and development".

RESOLUTION 56/204

Adopted at the 90th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/564, para. 10),[178] by a recorded vote of 148 to 4, with 4 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), United States of America

Abstaining: Cameroon, Fiji, Nicaragua, Papua New Guinea

56/204. Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/209 of 20 December 2000, and taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/19 of 25 July 2001,

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[178] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine.

Reaffirming the principle of the permanent sovereignty of peoples under foreign occupation over their natural resources,

Guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations affirming the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, and recalling relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980 and 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

Reaffirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[179] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

Expressing its concern at the exploitation by Israel, the occupying Power, of the natural resources of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

Aware of the additional detrimental economic and social impact of the Israeli settlements on Palestinian and other Arab natural resources, especially the confiscation of land and the forced diversion of water resources,

Reaffirming the need for an immediate resumption of negotiations within the Middle East peace process, on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973 and 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978 and the principle of land for peace, and for the achievement of a final settlement on all tracks,

1. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General on the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan;[180]

2. *Reaffirms* the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and the population of the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources, including land and water;

3. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, not to exploit, to cause loss or depletion of or to endanger the natural resources in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan;

4. *Recognizes* the right of the Palestinian people to claim restitution as a result of any exploitation, loss or depletion of, or danger to, their natural resources, and expresses the hope that this issue will be dealt with in the framework of the final status negotiations between the Palestinian and Israeli sides;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources".

RESOLUTION 56/205)

Adopted at the 90th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/565, para. 16)[181]

56/205. Special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Habitat Agenda[182] and the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements[183] adopted in Istanbul in 1996,

Recalling also the report of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the twenty-fifth special session of the General Assembly, on an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), held in New York from 6 to 8 June 2001,[184]

Stressing the importance of the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,[185] which was adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fifth special session,

Recognizing the need for renewed political will and for the mobilization and allocation of new and additional resources at the national and international levels in order to achieve full and accelerated implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,

Reiterating that strengthened international cooperation is an essential element for the effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,

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[179] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[180] A/56/90-E/2001/17.

[181] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[182] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3–14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[183] Ibid., annex I.

[184] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fifth Special Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/S-25/7/Rev.1).

[185] See resolution S-25/2, annex.

Recalling the goal contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[186] of achieving a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers by the year 2020, as proposed in the "Cities without Slums" initiative,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[187]

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of the full implementation of all the commitments undertaken in the Habitat Agenda;[182]

3. *Emphasizes* the importance, at all levels of policy-making and in the context of sustainable development, of giving high priority to the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,[185] including achieving the goals of adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development in an urbanizing world, particularly in developing countries;

4. *Recognizes* that the overall thrust of the new strategic vision of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)[188] and its emphasis on the two global campaigns on secure tenure and urban governance are strategic points of entry for the effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda, especially for guiding international cooperation in respect of adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development;

5. *Recognizes also* that Governments have the primary responsibility for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium, and stresses that the international community should fully implement its commitments to support Governments of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in their efforts, by providing the requisite means of implementation and through the creation of an international enabling environment;

6. *Requests* the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, including the specialized agencies, programmes, funds and regional commissions, as well as the World Bank and regional development banks, consistent with their respective mandates, to support fully the effective implementation at all levels of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium;

7. *Invites* local authorities and other Habitat Agenda partners to contribute to the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium, and encourages them to participate, as appropriate, in the Urban Forum and the Advisory Committee of Local Authorities, in their roles as advisory bodies to the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), bearing in mind the decisions of the Commission on Human Settlements on the establishment of those two bodies;

8. *Urges* the Executive Director of the Programme to assess the role and funding of the regional programme activity centres of the Programme with a view to providing improved technical cooperation services to Governments to implement the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium at all levels;

9. *Invites* Governments and the Habitat Agenda partners, including local authorities, to facilitate the dissemination of the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium;

10. *Invites* the Executive Director of the Programme to transmit the outcomes of the relevant intergovernmental processes relating to sustainable human settlements development to the preparatory processes of the International Conference on Financing for Development and the World Summit on Sustainable Development, bearing in mind the relevant decisions of the preparatory processes of those two conferences;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session an item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and of the twenty-fifth special session of the General Assembly", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/206)

Adopted at the 90th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/565, para. 16)[189]

56/206. Strengthening the mandate and status of the Commission on Human Settlements and the status, role and functions of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat

The General Assembly,

Recalling relevant resolutions on human settlements, in particular its resolutions 3327 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974, 32/162 of 19 December 1977 and 34/115 of 14 December 1979,

Recalling also the Habitat Agenda[190] and the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements,[191]

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[186] See resolution 55/2.

[187] A/56/477.

[188] Formerly known as the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) (see resolution 56/206 of 21 December 2001).

[189] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[190] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3–14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[191] Ibid., annex I.

Aware of rapid urbanization trends in developing countries and related challenges in shelter provision, eradicating poverty and sustainable human settlements development,

Convinced of the need for urgent action to advance the quality of life of all people in cities and other human settlements,

Conscious of the need to achieve greater coherence and effectiveness in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda within the United Nations system,

Recognizing that urgent steps should be taken to ensure a better mobilization of financial resources at all levels, to enhance the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, particularly in developing countries, with a view to improving human settlements,

Recalling the commitments of Governments to, inter alia, promoting broad access to appropriate housing financing, increasing the supply of affordable housing and creating an enabling environment for sustainable development that will attract investment,

Recalling also its resolution 51/177 of 16 December 1996, in which it, inter alia, designated the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) as a focal point for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and called for a comprehensive and in-depth assessment of the Centre with a view to its revitalization,

Recalling further its resolutions 52/220 of 22 December 1997, 53/242 of 28 July 1999 and 55/195 of 20 December 2000, in which it requested the Secretary-General to consider further strengthening the Centre through the provision of requisite support and stable, adequate and predictable financial resources, including additional regular budget and human resources,

Recalling agreed conclusions 2000/1 of the Economic and Social Council adopted at the coordination segment of the substantive session of 2000 of the Council,[192] and taking note of the conclusions of the Council at its substantive session of 2001 regarding improving inter-agency coordination in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda,

Bearing in mind the responsibilities of the Centre, as set out in paragraph 228 of the Habitat Agenda, and the establishment of the Habitat task manager system,

Recalling the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,[193] in particular paragraph 67 thereof, in which the Secretary-General was invited to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on options for reviewing and strengthening the mandate and status of the Commission on Human Settlements and the status, role and functions of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), in accordance with the relevant decisions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II),

Encouraged by the resumption by several Member States of voluntary contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation in response to the work undertaken by the management of the Centre to revitalize the Centre and give it a new impetus to advance the Habitat Agenda,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on options for reviewing and strengthening the mandate and status of the Commission on Human Settlements and the status, role and functions of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat),[194] including their financial implications,

I

United Nations Human Settlements Programme

Decides to transform the Commission on Human Settlements and its secretariat, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), including the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, with effect from 1 January 2002, into the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, to be known as UN-Habitat, which will have the elements described below:

A. Governing body

Status, composition, objectives, functions and responsibilities

1. *Decides* to transform, with effect from 1 January 2002, the Commission on Human Settlements into the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, to be known as UN-Habitat, a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly;

2. *Also decides* that the Governing Council shall propose its rules of procedure on the basis of the rules of procedure of the Commission on Human Settlements, bearing in mind the provisions of the present resolution, for consideration by the General Assembly;[195]

3. *Further decides* that the practices regarding the participation of Habitat Agenda partners shall be according to the relevant rules of the Economic and Social Council with regard to participation and accreditation, that the established practices of the Commission on Human Settlements shall be utilized and that such practices shall in no way create a

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[192] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/55/3/Rev.1), chap. V, para. 6.

[193] Resolution S-25/2, annex.

[194] A/56/618.

[195] The first meeting of the Governing Council shall be conducted in accordance with the rules of procedure and practices of the Commission on Human Settlements.

precedent for other governing bodies of the subsidiary organs of the General Assembly;

4. *Decides* that the Governing Council shall be composed of fifty-eight members, to be elected by the Economic and Social Council for four-year terms on the following basis:[196]

(*a*) Sixteen seats for African States;

(*b*) Thirteen seats for Asian and Pacific States;

(*c*) Six seats for Eastern European States;

(*d*) Ten seats for Latin American and Caribbean States;

(*e*) Thirteen seats for Western European and other States;

5. *Confirms* that the Governing Council shall have the objectives, functions and responsibilities set out in resolution 32/162 and in paragraph 222 of the Habitat Agenda;

6. *Decides* that the Governing Council shall be the intergovernmental decision-making body for the Programme;

7. *Also decides* that the Governing Council shall meet biennially and report to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council;

8. *Further decides* that the Committee of Permanent Representatives to UN-Habitat shall serve as the Governing Council's intersessional subsidiary body;

B. Secretariat of the Programme

1. *Decides* to transform, with effect from 1 January 2002, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) into the secretariat of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), and confirms that the secretariat of the Programme, under the direction of the Executive Director, shall be entrusted with the responsibilities set out in paragraph 228 of the Habitat Agenda and in resolution 32/162. The UN-Habitat secretariat shall service the Governing Council and serve as the focal point for human settlements and for the coordination of human settlements activities within the United Nations system;

2. *Also decides*, bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 54/249 of 23 December 1999, that the UN-Habitat secretariat shall be headed by an Executive Director at the level of Under-Secretary-General, to be elected by the General Assembly for a term of four years upon nomination by the Secretary-General after consultation with Member States;[197]

3. *Affirms* that the Urban Forum is a non-legislative technical forum in which experts can exchange views in the years when the Governing Council does not meet, and that the Advisory Committee of Local Authorities is an advisory body to the Executive Director;

4. *Decides* that the resources for managing the Programme shall comprise the posts and budgetary resources of the Centre, without prejudice to additional regular budget and extrabudgetary resources that may become available;

II

Financing human settlements

1. *Confirms* that the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) shall be responsible for the management of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, with due regard to the terms of reference of the Foundation as stipulated in General Assembly resolution 3327 (XXIX);

2. *Encourages* the Executive Director to strengthen the Foundation in order to achieve its primary operative objective, as set out in resolution 3327 (XXIX), of supporting the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, including supporting shelter, related infrastructure development programmes and housing finance institutions and mechanisms, particularly in developing countries;

3. *Invites* all Governments to increase their contributions to the Foundation to enhance the capacity of the Programme to support the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium;[193]

4. *Encourages* the Executive Director of the Programme to continue her fund-raising appeals and initiatives for a substantial increase of Foundation resources;

5. *Calls* for the active participation and collaboration of organizations and bodies within and outside the United Nations system, including the World Bank and regional development banks, in the activities of the Programme and its Foundation, in particular with regard to the provision of seed capital and the financing of operational human settlements projects and programmes, as well as developing appropriate and innovative approaches for financing its projects and programmes;

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[196] Existing members of the Commission on Human Settlements shall continue as members of the Governing Council until the expiration of their original terms of office.

[197] The current Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) shall continue as the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) until the expiration of her original term of office.

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to support the Programme through the provision of adequate regular budget resources;

III

Policy coordination

1. *Reaffirms* that the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, in accordance with relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and relevant resolutions, including General Assembly resolutions 48/162 of 20 December 1993 and 50/227 of 24 May 1996, together with the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), constitute the three-tiered intergovernmental mechanism to oversee the coordination of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

2. *Emphasizes* the role and importance of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, in particular achieving the goals of adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements, in the activities and programmes of the United Nations system, in particular in the context of common country assessments and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, as well as the poverty reduction strategy papers process led by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund;

3. *Welcomes* the fact that the Programme, as the United Nations focal point for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, will participate in the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination[198] at all levels of its machinery;

4. *Decides* that the Programme should strengthen its collaboration with the Commission on Sustainable Development and other relevant bodies in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda as it relates to sustainable development;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/207

Adopted at the 90th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/566, para. 10)[199]

56/207. Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006), including the proposal to establish a world solidarity fund for poverty eradication

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 47/196 of 22 December 1992, by which it established the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, as well as its resolution 48/183 of 21 December 1993, by which it proclaimed 1996 the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty,

Recalling also its resolution 50/107 of 20 December 1995 on the observance of the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty and the proclamation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006), as well as the declarations and programmes of action of the major United Nations conferences and summits, their follow-up and the need for their implementation, as they relate to the eradication of poverty,

Recalling further the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[200] adopted by heads of State and Government on the occasion of the Millennium Summit,

Recalling its resolution 55/210 of 20 December 2000, entitled "Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006), including the initiative to establish a world solidarity fund for poverty eradication",

Expressing its deep concern that the number of people living in extreme poverty in many countries continues to increase, with women and children constituting the majority and the most affected group, in particular in African countries and the least developed countries,

Recognizing that, while the rate of poverty in some countries has been reduced, some developing countries and disadvantaged groups are being marginalized and others are at risk of being marginalized and effectively excluded from the benefits of globalization, resulting in increased income disparity among and within countries, thereby constraining efforts to eradicate poverty,

Recognizing also that for the poverty eradication strategy to be effective it is imperative for developing countries to be integrated into the world economy and equitably share the benefits of globalization,

Recalling the commitment made by the heads of State and Government at the Millennium Summit to eradicate extreme poverty, in particular the commitment to halve, by 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger,

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[198] Formerly known as the Administrative Committee on Coordination (see Economic and Social Council decision 2001/321 of 24 October 2001).

[199] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[200] See resolution 55/2.

Bearing in mind the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development,[201] the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development[202] and the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session, entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", held at Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,[203] as well as the objectives of the World Food Summit, held at Rome from 13 to 17 November 1996,

Recognizing that, while it is the primary responsibility of States to attain economic and social development and to achieve the development and poverty eradication goals as set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, the international community should support the efforts of the developing countries to eradicate poverty and ensure basic social protection and to promote an enabling international environment,

Expressing concern at the recent economic slowdown, particularly its adverse impact on the economies of developing countries, which could hinder the realization of agreed development goals, in particular the eradication of poverty,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006),[204]

1. *Stresses* that the United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006) should contribute to achieving the targets of halving, by 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger, through decisive national action and strengthened international cooperation;

2. *Reaffirms*, as set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[200] that success in meeting the objectives of development and poverty eradication depends, inter alia, on good governance within each country, and that it also depends on good governance at the international level, on transparency in the financial, monetary and trading systems and on commitment to an open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading and financial system;

3. *Recognizes* that success in meeting the objective of poverty eradication requires an enabling environment that encourages, inter alia, sustainable development, including economic growth that favours the poor and that upholds human rights, including the right to development, democratic principles and the rule of law, at all levels;

4. *Also recognizes* the responsibility of Governments to adopt policies aimed at preventing and combating corrupt practices at the national and international levels;

5. *Calls upon* all countries to formulate and implement outcome-oriented national strategies and programmes, setting time-bound targets for poverty reduction, including the target of halving, by 2015, the proportion of people living in extreme poverty, which requires the strengthening of national action and international cooperation;

6. *Calls* for strengthened efforts at all levels to implement fully and effectively the United Nations Millennium Declaration, as well as the relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations and all agreements and commitments adopted at the major United Nations conferences and summits and their follow-up, as they relate to the eradication of poverty, with a view to achieving tangible results;

7. *Stresses* the importance of tackling the root causes of poverty and the necessity of meeting the basic needs of all, and in this context emphasizes the fundamental role in the eradication of poverty of strong and sustained economic growth that favours the poor, creates substantive expansion in productive opportunities and employment, increases incomes, promotes equitable income distribution and minimizes environmental degradation;

8. *Also stresses* the importance of increasing access to and control over resources, including land, skills, knowledge, capital and social connections, for the poor, in particular women, and of improving access for all to basic social services;

9. *Recognizes* the importance of the adoption of appropriate policy responses to the challenges of globalization at the national level, in particular by pursuing sound and stable domestic policies, including sound macroeconomic and social policies, inter alia, those contributing to increased income of the poor, in order to realize the objective of the eradication of poverty;

10. *Urges* the strengthening of international assistance to developing countries in their efforts to alleviate poverty, inter alia, by creating an enabling environment that would facilitate the integration of developing countries into the world economy, improving their market access, facilitating the flow of financial resources and implementing fully and effectively all initiatives already launched regarding debt relief for developing countries, and emphasizes that the international community should consider further measures that would lead to effective, equitable, development-oriented and durable solutions to the external debt and debt-servicing problems of developing countries so that they can share equally in the benefits of globalization, cope with its negative effects, avoid being marginalized in the process of globalization and achieve full integration into the world economy;

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[201] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[202] Ibid., annex II.

[203] Resolution S-24/2, annex, sect. I.

[204] A/56/229 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

11. *Reaffirms* that, within the context of overall action for the eradication of poverty, special attention should be given to the multidimensional nature of poverty and the national and international conditions and policies that are conducive to its eradication, fostering, inter alia, the social and economic integration of people living in poverty, thus empowering them to participate in decision-making with regard to the policies that affect them, the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, including the right to development, bearing in mind the relationship between all human rights and development, and an efficient, transparent and accountable public service and administration;

12. *Recognizes* that the eradication of poverty and the achievement and preservation of peace are mutually reinforcing;

13. *Reaffirms* that the causes of poverty should be addressed in an integrated way, taking into account the importance of the need for the empowerment of women and sectoral strategies in such areas as education, development of human resources, health, human settlements, rural development, productive employment, population, environment, freshwater, food security and migration, and the specific needs of disadvantaged and vulnerable groups, and in such a way as to increase opportunities and choices for people living in poverty and to enable them to build and strengthen their assets so as to achieve social and economic development; and in this regard encourages countries to develop their national poverty reduction policies in accordance with their national priorities including, where appropriate, through poverty reduction strategy papers;

14. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the United Nations system to assign priority to the eradication of poverty and to enhance coordination, and in this regard encourages the organizations of the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions, and other partners in development to continue to support all Member States, members of specialized agencies and United Nations observers in carrying forward their own strategy for the achievement of the objectives of the Decade;

15. *Also welcomes* the holding of the International Conference on Financing for Development at Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002, and encourages Governments and stakeholders to take concrete initiatives and actions in support of financing for development;

16. *Further welcomes* the convening of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, to be held at Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002, as a significant opportunity to renew our commitment to sustainable development, the international development goals, Agenda 21,[205] and the principles contained in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development;[206]

17. *Notes* the outcome of the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held at Doha from 9 to 13 November 2001;[207]

18. *Recognizes* the importance of the expansion of international trade as an engine of growth and development and, in this context, the need for expeditious and complete integration of developing countries and countries with economies in transition into the international trading system, in full cognizance of the opportunities and challenges of globalization and liberalization and taking into account the circumstances of individual countries, in particular the trade interests and development needs of developing countries;

19. *Also recognizes* the critical need for countries to undertake economic, institutional and regulatory reforms to support wide trade liberalization and to create an enabling environment in which trade can truly serve as an engine for economic growth and development, and in this regard calls upon the international community to continue to support the capacity-building efforts of developing countries, taking into account their national circumstances;

20. *Reaffirms* that all Governments and the United Nations system should promote an active and visible policy of mainstreaming a gender perspective in all policies and programmes aimed at the eradication of poverty, at both the national and the international level, and encourages the use of gender analysis as a tool for the integration of a gender dimension into planning the implementation of policies, strategies and programmes for the eradication of poverty;

21. *Expresses its appreciation* to the developed countries that have agreed to and have reached the target of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for overall official development assistance, and calls upon the developed countries that have not yet done so to strengthen their efforts to achieve the agreed target as soon as possible and, where agreed, within that target, to earmark 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of their gross national product for the least developed countries;

22. *Stresses* the important role played by official development assistance in complementing domestic efforts to meet the development needs of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, and in this regard acknowledges the official development assistance made

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[205] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[206] Ibid., annex I.

[207] See A/C.2/56/7, annex.

available to developing countries and the efforts that developing countries have made to eradicate poverty;

23. *Calls* for the full, speedy and effective implementation of the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, and in this regard stresses the need for the donor community to provide the additional resources necessary to fulfil the future financial requirements of the Initiative, welcomes the agreement that financing for heavily indebted poor countries should be reviewed analytically and separately from International Development Association replenishment requirements but immediately after meetings for the thirteenth replenishment of the Association, and calls upon all donors to participate fully in this process;

24. *Calls upon* the heavily indebted poor countries to take, as soon as possible, the policy measures necessary to become eligible for the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative and to reach the decision point;

25. *Welcomes* the recognition by the Joint Ministerial Committee of the Boards of Governors of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund on the Transfer of Real Resources to Developing Countries of the need to take into account worsening global growth prospects and declines in terms of trade, when updating Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative debt sustainability analysis at completion point;[208]

26. *Recognizes* the difficulties faced by heavily indebted middle-income developing countries in meeting their external debt and debt-servicing obligations, and notes the worsening situation in some of them in the context, inter alia, of greater liquidity constraints, which may require debt treatment through various national and international measures designed to assist those countries in making their debt burden sustainable in the long term and in combating poverty effectively;

27. *Calls upon* the developed countries, by means of intensified and effective cooperation with developing countries, to promote capacity-building and facilitate access to and transfer of technologies and corresponding knowledge, in particular to developing countries, on favourable terms, including concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights, as well as the special needs of developing countries, by identifying and implementing practical steps to ensure the achievement of progress in this regard and to assist developing countries in their efforts to eradicate poverty in an era influenced in large measure by technology;

28. *Stresses* that the goal of halving extreme poverty by 2015 will not be achieved without serious efforts to address the development needs of the least developed countries and to support their efforts in improving the lives of their people, and in this regard welcomes the adoption of the Brussels Declaration[209] and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010,[210] at the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held at Brussels from 14 to 20 May 2001, and calls upon the national Governments of the least developed countries and their development partners to implement fully the commitments undertaken in Brussels;

29. *Emphasizes* the role of microcredit as an important anti-poverty tool that promotes production and self-employment and empowers people living in poverty, especially women, and therefore encourages Governments to adopt policies that support microcredit schemes and the development of microfinance institutions and their capacities, and calls upon the international community, in particular the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and international and regional financial institutions involved in the eradication of poverty, to support and explore the incorporation of the microcredit approach into their programmes and the further development, as appropriate, of other microfinance instruments;

30. *Welcomes* the New Partnership for Africa's Development launched at Abuja in October 2001, whose objectives are, inter alia, to promote sustained economic growth and development, including human development, so as to eradicate poverty in Africa on the basis of African leadership and enhanced partnership with the international community, and calls upon the developed countries and the United Nations system to support this partnership and complement the efforts undertaken by Africa to overcome the challenges it faces;

31. *Emphasizes* the critical role of both formal and non-formal education, particularly basic education, and training, in particular for girls, in the empowerment of those living in poverty, and in this context welcomes the Dakar Framework for Action adopted at the World Education Forum,[211] as well as the strategy for poverty eradication of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,[212] and invites the organs and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund, to continue to promote the inclusion of education in anti-poverty strategies;

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[208] See para. 8 of the communiqué of the Joint Ministerial Committee at its 64th meeting, held at Ottawa on 18 November 2001.

[209] A/CONF.191/12.

[210] A/CONF.191/11.

[211] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26–28 April 2000* (Paris, 2000).

[212] Adopted at the thirty-first session of the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 2 November 2001.

32. *Recalls* the commitments of the United Nations conferences and summits to eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education by 2005 and to promote universal primary education in all countries by 2015, and in this regard urges Member States to take immediate measures to remove obstacles to young girls' school attendance and to reduce drop-out rates;

33. *Reaffirms* the role of United Nations funds and programmes, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, in assisting the national efforts of developing countries, inter alia, in the eradication of poverty, and the need for their funding in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions;

34. *Also reaffirms* the importance of agreeing on a mutual commitment of interested developed and developing country partners to allocate, on average, 20 per cent of official development assistance and 20 per cent of the national budget, respectively, to basic social programmes, and welcomes the efforts made to implement the 20/20 initiative, which emphasizes that promoting access for all to basic social services is essential for sustainable and equitable development and is an integral part of the strategy for the eradication of poverty;

35. *Recognizes* the devastating effect of the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) epidemic on human development, economic growth and poverty reduction efforts in many countries, in particular sub-Saharan African countries, and urges Governments and the international community to give urgent priority to the HIV/AIDS crisis, in particular addressing the special needs of developing countries through strengthened cooperation and assistance as well as through the implementation of commitments undertaken, as agreed in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-sixth special session in June 2001;[213]

36. *Calls upon* Member States and the international community to support and participate in the global efforts for poverty eradication at the global, regional and country levels in order to ensure that the development and poverty reduction goals, as set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, are realized, and also calls upon the international community to support those efforts and to strengthen the resources available to the United Nations in order to enhance its capacity to support and coordinate all relevant initiatives in this regard and play its role of facilitator and advocate;

37. *Encourages* the continuing examination in all relevant intergovernmental forums of ways and means to integrate poverty reduction objectives and strategies into discussions on international financial and development issues;

38. *Welcomes favourably* the proposal to establish a world solidarity fund for poverty eradication and the promotion of human and social development in developing countries, in particular among the poorest segments of their population;

39. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with a view to establishing the fund, to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report containing his recommendations on mechanisms, modalities, terms of reference, mandates and governance for the operationalization of the fund, bearing in mind the voluntary nature of contributions from Member States, international organizations, the private sector, relevant institutions, foundations and individuals and the need to avoid duplication of existing United Nations funds;

40. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in the context of the follow-up to the United Nations Millennium Declaration, to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a comprehensive report containing an evaluation of progress made towards achieving the goals of the Decade, including best practices, lessons learned and obstacles, as well as in the achievement of the 2015 targets for poverty reduction, and recommendations for further action to achieve the 2015 targets, including the identification of resource requirements and possible sources of funding;

41. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006)".

RESOLUTION 56/208

Adopted at the 90th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/567, para. 11)[214]

56/208. United Nations Institute for Training and Research

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/121 of 20 December 1995, 51/188 of 16 December 1996, 52/206 of 18 December 1997, 53/195 of 15 December 1998, 54/229 of 22 December 1999 and 55/208 of 20 December 2000,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[215]

Welcoming the recent progress made by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research in its various programmes and activities, including the improved cooperation that has been established with other organizations of the United Nations system and with regional and national institutions,

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[213] See resolution S-26/2, annex.

[214] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[215] A/56/615.

Expressing its appreciation to the Governments and private institutions that have made or pledged financial and other contributions to the Institute,

Noting that contributions to the General Fund have not increased and that the participation of the developed countries in training programmes in New York and Geneva is increasing,

Noting also that the bulk of the resources contributed to the Institute are directed to the Special Purpose Grants Fund rather than to the General Fund, and stressing the need to address that unbalanced situation,

Noting further that the Institute receives no subsidy from the United Nations regular budget, that it provides training programmes to all Member States free of charge and that similar United Nations institutions based at Geneva are not charged rent or maintenance costs,

Welcoming the decisions taken by the Secretary-General to ensure continuity in the management of the Institute and to establish the proper grade for the post of Executive Director with the concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,

Reiterating that training activities should be accorded a more visible and larger role in support of the management of international affairs and in the execution of the economic and social development programmes of the United Nations system,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of a coordinated, United Nations system-wide approach to research and training based on an effective coherent strategy and an effective division of labour among the relevant institutions and bodies;

2. *Also reaffirms* the relevance of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research in view of the growing importance of training within the United Nations and the training requirements of States and the relevance of training-related research activities undertaken by the Institute within its mandate;

3. *Stresses* the need for the Institute to strengthen further its cooperation with other United Nations institutes and relevant national, regional and international institutes;

4. *Welcomes* the progress made in building partnerships between the Institute and other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system with respect to their training programmes, and in this context underlines the need to develop further and to expand the scope of those partnerships, in particular at the country level;

5. *Requests* the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research to continue to ensure fair geographical distribution and transparency in the preparation of the programmes and in the employment of experts, and in this regard stresses that the courses of the Institute should focus primarily on development issues;

6. *Renews its appeal* to all Governments, in particular those of developed countries, and to private institutions that have not yet contributed financially or otherwise to the Institute, to give it their generous financial and other support, and urges the States that have interrupted their voluntary contributions to consider resuming them in view of the successful restructuring and revitalization of the Institute;

7. *Calls upon* developed countries, which are increasingly participating in the training programmes conducted in New York and Geneva, to make contributions or consider increasing their contributions to the General Fund;

8. *Encourages* the Board of Trustees of the Institute to continue its efforts to resolve the critical financial situation of the Institute, in particular with a view to broadening its donor base and increasing the contributions made to the General Fund;

9. *Also encourages* the Board of Trustees to consider diversifying further the venues of the events organized by the Institute and to include the cities hosting regional commissions, in order to promote greater participation and reduce costs;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Institute and United Nations funds and programmes, to continue to explore ways and means of systematically utilizing the Institute in the execution of training and capacity-building programmes for the economic and social development of developing countries;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to clarify the reason why the United Nations Institute for Training and Research does not benefit from rental rates and maintenance costs similar to those enjoyed by other organizations affiliated with the United Nations, such as the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research and the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development, and further requests the Secretary-General to submit proposals on how to waive or reduce the rental rates and maintenance costs charged to the United Nations Institute for Training and Research with a view to alleviating its current financial difficulties, which are aggravated by the current practice of charging commercial rates;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution, including details on the status of contributions to, and the financial situation of, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, as well as on the use of its services by Member States.

RESOLUTION 56/209

Adopted at the 90th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/568, para. 9)[216]

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[216] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

56/209. Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/169 of 15 December 1998, 54/231 of 22 December 1999 and 55/212 of 20 December 2000 on the role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[217]

2. *Takes note also* of the deliberations of the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Financing for Development, to be held at Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002;[218]

3. *Stresses* the importance of continued substantive consideration of the item on globalization and interdependence;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on globalization and interdependence, bearing in mind, inter alia, the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence".

RESOLUTION 56/210

Adopted at the 90th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/570, para. 14)[219]

56/210. International Conference on Financing for Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 46/205 of 20 December 1991, 48/187 of 21 December 1993, 50/93 of 20 December 1995, 52/179 of 18 December 1997, 53/173 of 15 December 1998, 54/196 of 22 December 1999 and 55/213 of 20 December 2000 on the high-level international intergovernmental consideration of financing for development,

Recalling also its resolution 55/245 A of 21 March 2001, on convening an International Conference on Financing for Development, in which it accepted with gratitude the generous offer of Mexico to host the Conference, which is to be held at Monterrey from 18 to 22 March 2002,

1. *Takes note* of the deliberations of the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Financing for Development at its first, second and third substantive sessions;[220]

2. *Stresses* the importance of continued substantive consideration of the item on financing for development;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "High-level international intergovernmental consideration of financing for development".

RESOLUTION 56/211

Adopted at the 90th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/571, para. 23)[221]

56/211. Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields

The General Assembly,

Welcoming Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/21 of 26 July 2001,

1. *Decides* to examine how best to address the reviews of the implementation of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits of the 1990s, in the economic and social fields, including their format and periodicity;

2. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session an item entitled "Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields";

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make available to the Assembly the report requested by the Economic and Social Council for consideration at its substantive session of 2002 on the implementation of Council resolution 2001/21.

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[217] A/56/445.

[218] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 28* (A/55/28), part two; ibid., *Supplement No. 28A* (A/55/28/Add.1); ibid., *Supplement No. 28B* and corrigendum (A/55/28/Add.2 and Corr.1); and ibid., *Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 28* and corrigendum (A/56/28 and Corr.1).

[219] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[220] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 28* (A/55/28), part two; ibid., *Supplement No. 28A* (A/55/28/Add.1); ibid., *Supplement No. 28B* and corrigendum (A/55/28/Add.2 and Corr.1); and ibid., *Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 28* and corrigendum (A/56/28 and Corr.1).

[221] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Japan.

RESOLUTION 56/212

Adopted at the 90th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/571, para. 23)[222]

56/212. Global Code of Ethics for Tourism

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 32/156 of 19 December 1977, by which it approved the Agreement on Cooperation and Relationships between the United Nations and the World Tourism Organization,

Reaffirming paragraph 5 of its resolution 36/41 of 19 November 1981, in which it decided that the World Tourism Organization might participate, on a continuing basis, in the work of the General Assembly in areas of concern to that organization,

Recalling the Manila Declaration on World Tourism of 10 October 1980 adopted under the auspices of the World Tourism Organization,[223] the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development[224] and Agenda 21[225] adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development on 14 June 1992, and taking note of the Amman Declaration on Peace through Tourism adopted at the Global Summit on Peace through Tourism on 11 November 2000,[226]

Considering that the Commission on Sustainable Development, at its seventh session, held in April 1999, expressed interest in a global code of ethics for tourism and invited the World Tourism Organization to consider the participation of informed major groups in the development, implementation and monitoring of its global code of ethics for tourism,[227]

Recalling its resolution 53/200 of 15 December 1998 on the proclamation of 2002 as the International Year of Ecotourism, in which, inter alia, it reaffirmed Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/40 of 30 July 1998, recognizing the support of the World Tourism Organization for the importance of ecotourism, in particular the designation of the year 2002 as the International Year of Ecotourism, in fostering better understanding among peoples everywhere, in leading to greater awareness of the rich heritage of various civilizations and in bringing about a better appreciation of the inherent values of different cultures, thereby contributing to the strengthening of world peace,

Recognizing the important dimension and role of tourism as a positive instrument towards the alleviation of poverty and the improvement of the quality of life for all people, its potential to make a contribution to economic and social development, especially of the developing countries, and its emergence as a vital force for the promotion of international understanding, peace and prosperity,

1. *Takes note with interest* of the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism adopted at the thirteenth session of the General Assembly of the World Tourism Organization,[228] which outlines principles to guide tourism development and to serve as a frame of reference for the different stakeholders in the tourism sector, with the objective of minimizing the negative impact of tourism on environment and on cultural heritage while maximizing the benefits of tourism in promoting sustainable development and poverty alleviation as well as understanding among nations;

2. *Emphasizes* the need for the promotion of a responsible and sustainable tourism that could be beneficial to all sectors of society;

3. *Invites* Governments and other stakeholders in the tourism sector to consider introducing, as appropriate, the contents of the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism in relevant laws, regulations and professional practices, and, in this regard, recognizes with appreciation the efforts made and measures already undertaken by some States;

4. *Encourages* the World Tourism Organization to promote effective follow-up to the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism, with the involvement of relevant stakeholders in the tourism sector;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to follow up developments related to the implementation of the present resolution based on the reports of the World Tourism Organization and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session.

RESOLUTION 56/213

Adopted at the 90th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/571, para. 23)[229]

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[222] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Economic and Social Council.

[223] A/36/236, annex, appendix I.

[224] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex I.

[225] Ibid., annex II.

[226] See A/55/640.

[227] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 9* (E/1999/29), decision 7/3.

[228] See E/2001/61, annex.

[229] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by the Islamic Republic of Iran (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

56/213. Public administration and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 50/225 of 19 April 1996, adopted at the resumed fiftieth session on the question of public administration and development,

Recognizing that efficient, effective and transparent public administration, at both the national and international levels, has a pivotal role to play in the implementation of the key objectives of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[230]

1. *Welcomes* the establishment of the United Nations Public Administration Online Network as a powerful tool made available to Member States for the exchange of information and experience in public administration;

2. *Recommends* that the Network be expanded to strengthen the capacity of national ministries and institutions of public administration, to access information, experience and practice in public administration, and to receive online training;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to assist Member States, in particular developing countries and countries with economies in transition, upon their request, in their process of reform, by fostering information-sharing, as appropriate, and the exchange of experience; assisting in building essential capacity and essential skills; providing assistance in institution-building; and improving the coordination of development assistance in this field;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to study the possibility of periodically bringing together high-level policy makers responsible for public administration reform, under the auspices of the United Nations, to discuss issues of common interest and share valuable experience and practice, and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the results of that study;

5. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to keep under constant review the developments in this field in Member States and to highlight changes and trends as well as successes in this area, with particular emphasis on the role of public administration in the implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[230] and to summarize his findings in a report to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council.

RESOLUTION 56/226

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/561/Add.1, para. 10)[231]

56/226. World Summit on Sustainable Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/199 of 20 December 2000 and the decisions adopted by the Commission on Sustainable Development acting as the Preparatory Committee for the World Summit on Sustainable Development at its organizational session,[232]

Encouraging countries and relevant regional and international organizations to support the preparatory processes,

Welcoming national preparations for the Summit, including those at the local level, through the establishment of preparatory committees, with the participation of Governments and other stakeholders, the undertaking of national assessments and the initiation of other preparatory activities, encouraging all countries to intensify that work, and calling upon the United Nations system to support such activities,

Welcoming also the activities of major groups related to the preparations for the Summit, and encouraging them to carry out further preparatory activities,

Welcoming further the valuable contributions from the preparatory activities undertaken at the subregional and the regional level, as well as from other relevant initiatives undertaken at the international level,

Encouraging new initiatives that would contribute to the full implementation of Agenda 21,[233] the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development[234] and other relevant outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development by strengthening commitments at all levels, including by reinvigorating, at the highest political level, global commitment and partnerships, especially between Governments of the North and the South, on the one hand, and between Governments and major groups on the other,

Expressing its appreciation for the work undertaken by South Africa and Indonesia as the host Governments, respectively, of the Summit and the fourth session of the Preparatory Committee at the ministerial level,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on progress in preparatory activities for the World Summit on Sustainable Development;[235]

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[230] See resolution 55/2.

[231] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[232] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 19* (A/56/19), chap. VIII, sect. B.

[233] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[234] Ibid., annex I.

[235] A/56/379.

2. *Approves* the provisional rules of procedure of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, as recommended by the Commission on Sustainable Development acting as the Preparatory Committee for the Summit at its organizational session;[236]

3. *Decides* that the Summit shall be open to all States Members of the United Nations and States members of the specialized agencies, with the participation of observers in accordance with the established practice of the General Assembly and its conferences and with the rules of procedure of the Summit;

4. *Also decides* that the Summit shall be held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002, with the participation of heads of State and Government during the period 2 to 4 September;

5. *Reiterates* that the Summit, including its preparatory process, should ensure a balance between economic development, social development and environmental protection since they are interdependent and mutually reinforcing components of sustainable development;

6. *Invites* countries to be represented at the highest political level at the Summit;

7. *Requests* the Commission on Sustainable Development acting as the Preparatory Committee for the Summit to decide on all remaining issues related to the organization of work of the Summit, including specific details of the series of events to be held in partnership with stakeholders, the short multi-stakeholder event involving the highest level of representation from major groups and Governments, and the round-table meetings to be held at the level of heads of State or Government;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to launch a public information campaign to raise global awareness of the Summit, including through reprioritization of the budget of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat and voluntary contributions;

9. *Invites* donors to continue providing extrabudgetary resources, in particular through voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund, in support of the preparatory activities for the Summit and the Summit itself, and to support the travel and participation of representatives of developing countries, in particular from the least developed countries, and encourages voluntary contributions to support the participation of major groups from developing countries;

10. *Encourages* all countries to complete their national assessment reports, and in that regard calls upon relevant regional and international organizations to further step up their efforts to assist developing countries in the elaboration of those assessment reports;

11. *Encourages*, at the national level, the active involvement of all Government agencies responsible for economic development, social development and environmental protection, and invites them to provide coordinated inputs and contributions to the preparatory process of the Summit;

12. *Encourages* the active involvement of all relevant regional and international agencies and organizations, and invites them to provide inputs and contributions to the preparatory process of the Summit;

13. *Encourages* effective contributions from and the active participation of all major groups, as identified in Agenda 21,[233] at all stages of the preparatory process, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the Commission on Sustainable Development, as well as its established practices for the participation and engagement of major groups;

14. *Reiterates* the invitation to all intergovernmental processes relevant to the Summit to submit their progress reports to the Commission acting as the Preparatory Committee at its second session, to be held from 28 January to 8 February 2002, and their final results to the Commission acting as the Preparatory Committee at its third session, to be held from 25 March to 5 April 2002, so that they can be fully considered in the preparatory process;

15. *Reiterates* the role of the Commission on Sustainable Development acting as the Preparatory Committee in the global intergovernmental process for the preparations for the Summit, and in that context recalls the mandate and role of its Bureau, as stipulated by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/199 and by the Commission on Sustainable Development acting as the Preparatory Committee in the decisions adopted at its organizational session;[232]

16. *Welcomes* the initiatives undertaken by the Secretary-General to raise international awareness on the Summit;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the outcome of the Summit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21", taking into account the outcome of the Summit.

RESOLUTION 56/227

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/569, para. 12)[237]

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[236] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 19* (A/56/19), chap. VIII, sect. A, draft resolution, annex.

[237] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

56/227. Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/279 of 12 July 2001, in which it endorsed the Brussels Declaration[238] and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010,[239]

Emphasizing the importance of a highly visible, efficient and effective follow-up and monitoring arrangement for the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010, as well as of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[240] the Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation between Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and the Donor Community,[241] and relevant paragraphs of the United Nations Millennium Declaration[242] for those countries,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up mechanism for coordinating, monitoring and reviewing the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010,[243]

1. *Decides* to establish the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, having the functions recommended by the Secretary-General in his report;[244]

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take immediate measures to make the Office of the High Representative operational as soon as possible;

3. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to enhance the operational capacity of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as well as that of other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system in their activities aimed at supporting recipient countries, especially developing countries, and in particular the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States;

4. *Reiterates its invitation* to the organizations of the United Nations system and other multilateral organizations to mainstream the implementation of the Brussels Declaration[238] and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010[239] within their programmes of work as well as in their intergovernmental processes;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to review the title and functions of its current Office of the Special Coordinator;

6. *Invites* Member States to extend all necessary support and cooperation to the Office of the High Representative;

7. *Underlines* the importance of optimal coordination between the Office of the High Representative and the various organizations of the United Nations system and other multilateral organizations;

8. *Invites* the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, and other relevant multilateral organizations, to provide full support to and cooperation with the Office of the High Representative;

9. *Decides* that the provisions of the present resolution shall be implemented within the approved level of the budget for the biennium 2002–2003, and requests the Secretary-General to seek voluntary contributions for the Office of the High Representative;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[238] A/CONF.191/12.

[239] A/CONF.191/11.

[240] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[241] TD/B/42(1)/11-TD/B/LDC/AC.1/7, annex I.

[242] See resolution 55/2.

[243] A/56/645 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1 and 2.

[244] A/56/645, para. 17.

V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

Contents

Resolution No. *Title* *Page*

56/113. Preparations for and observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family 276

56/114. Cooperatives in social development 276

56/115. Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons: towards a society for all in the twenty-first century 277

56/116. United Nations Literacy Decade: education for all 280

56/117. Policies and programmes involving youth 282

56/118. United Nations Trust Fund for Ageing 284

56/119. Role, function, periodicity and duration of the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders 284

56/120. Action against transnational organized crime: assistance to States in capacity-building with a view to facilitating the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto 286

56/121. Combating the criminal misuse of information technologies 286

56/122. United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders 287

56/123. Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity 288

56/124. International cooperation against the world drug problem 290

56/125. Critical situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women 296

56/126. Situation of older women in society 297

56/127. Improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system 298

56/128. Traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls 301

56/129. Improvement of the situation of women in rural areas 304

56/130. United Nations Development Fund for Women 305

56/131. Violence against women migrant workers 307

56/132. Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly 309

56/133. Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees 312

56/134. Follow-up to the Regional Conference to Address the Problems of Refugees, Displaced Persons, Other Forms of Involuntary Displacement and Returnees in the Countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and Relevant Neighbouring States 313

56/135. Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa 314

56/136. Assistance to unaccompanied refugee minors 317

56/137. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees 319

56/138. The rights of the child 320

56/139. The girl child 321

Resolution No.	*Title*	*Page*
56/140.	International Decade of the World's Indigenous People	324
56/141.	Universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination	326
56/142.	The right of the Palestinian people to self-determination	326
56/143.	Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment	327
56/144.	International Covenants on Human Rights	330
56/145.	International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families	333
56/146.	Equitable geographical distribution in the membership of the human rights treaty bodies	334
56/147.	Human rights education	335
56/148.	Human rights and unilateral coercive measures	336
56/149.	Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights	337
56/150.	The right to development	338
56/151.	Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order	341
56/152.	Respect for the purposes and principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations to achieve international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms and in solving international problems of a humanitarian character	344
56/153.	Strengthening United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity	345
56/154.	Respect for the principles of national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of States in electoral processes as an important element for the promotion and protection of human rights	347
56/155.	The right to food	348
56/156.	Human rights and cultural diversity	350
56/157.	Elimination of all forms of religious intolerance	352
56/158.	National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights	354
56/159.	Strengthening the role of the United Nations in enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections and the promotion of democratization	356
56/160.	Human rights and terrorism	357
56/161.	Human rights in the administration of justice	359
56/162.	Effective promotion of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities	361
56/163.	Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms	363
56/164.	Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons	364
56/165.	Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights	366
56/166.	Human rights and mass exoduses	367
56/167.	United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education	369
56/168.	Comprehensive and integral international convention to promote and protect the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities	373

V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

Resolution No.	*Title*	*Page*
56/169.	Situation of human rights in Cambodia	374
56/170.	Protection of migrants	378
56/171.	Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran	380
56/172.	Situation of human rights in parts of South-Eastern Europe	382
56/173.	Situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo	384
56/174.	Situation of human rights in Iraq	388
56/175.	Situation of human rights in the Sudan	391
56/176.	Question of human rights in Afghanistan	396
56/177.	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly	399
56/228.	Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing	400
56/229.	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women	401
56/230.	Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa	403
56/231.	Situation of human rights in Myanmar	404
56/232.	Use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination	406

RESOLUTION 56/113

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/572, para. 24)[1]

56/113. Preparations for and observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/82 of 8 December 1989, 47/237 of 20 September 1993, 50/142 of 21 December 1995, 52/81 of 12 December 1997 and 54/124 of 17 December 1999 concerning the proclamation, preparations for and observance of the International Year of the Family,

Recognizing that the preparation for and observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family provides a useful opportunity for drawing further attention to the objectives of the Year for increasing cooperation at all levels on family issues and for undertaking concerted actions to strengthen family-centred policies and programmes as part of an integrated comprehensive approach to development,

Recognizing also that the follow-up to the International Year of the Family is an integral part of the agenda and of the multi-year programme of work of the Commission for Social Development until 2004,

Recognizing further that the family-related provisions of the outcomes of the world conferences of the 1990s continue to provide policy guidance on ways to strengthen family-centred components of policies and programmes as part of an integrated comprehensive approach to development,

Noting with concern the devastating effects of difficult social and economic conditions, armed conflicts, natural disasters and infectious diseases such as tuberculosis and malaria and of the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) pandemic on family life,

Emphasizing that equality between women and men and respect for the human rights of all family members is essential to family well-being and to society at large,

Noting the active role of the United Nations in enhancing international cooperation in family-related issues, in particular in the area of research and information,

Emphasizing that it is necessary to intensify and improve coordination of the activities of the United Nations system on family-related issues so as to contribute fully to the effective preparation for and celebration of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the International Year of the Family and the preparations for the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family[2] and the recommendations contained therein;

2. *Urges* Governments to view 2004 as a target year by which concrete achievements should be made to identify and elaborate issues of direct concern to families and also to set up and strengthen, where appropriate, mechanisms to plan and coordinate activities of governmental bodies and non-governmental organizations;

3. *Encourages* the regional commissions, within their respective mandates and resources, to participate in the preparatory process of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family and to play an active role in facilitating regional cooperation in this regard;

4. *Requests* the Commission for Social Development to continue to review annually the preparations for the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family as part of its agenda and of its multi-year programme of work until 2004;

5. *Invites* Member States to consider organizing activities in preparation for the celebration of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family at the national level;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in order to facilitate contributions by Governments, to include the United Nations Trust Fund on Family Activities, on an annual basis, among the programmes for which funds are pledged at the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session through the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council on the implementation of the present resolution, including a description of the state of preparation for the observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family at all levels.

RESOLUTION 56/114

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/572, para. 24)[3]

56/114. Cooperatives in social development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/90 of 16 December 1992, 49/155 of 23 December 1994 and 51/58 of 12 December 1996 and its resolution 54/123 of 17 December 1999, in which it requested the Secretary-General to seek the views of Governments on the draft guidelines aimed at creating a supportive environment for the development of cooperatives[4] and to provide, if necessary, a revised version for adoption,

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Economic and Social Council.

[2] E/CN.5/2001/4.

[3] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Burkina Faso, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Mali, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Niger, Panama, Philippines, Sierra Leone, Sudan and Thailand.

Recognizing that cooperatives, in their various forms, promote the fullest possible participation in the economic and social development of all people, including women, youth, older persons and people with disabilities, and are becoming a major factor of economic and social development,

Recognizing also the important contribution and potential of all forms of cooperatives to the follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development, held at Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, the Fourth World Conference on Women, held at Beijing from 4 to 15 September 1995, and the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), held at Istanbul, Turkey, from 3 to 14 June 1996, and their five-year reviews, as well as the World Food Summit, held at Rome from 13 to 17 November 1996,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[5]

2. *Draws the attention* of Member States to the draft guidelines aimed at creating a supportive environment for the development of cooperatives,[6] to be considered by them in developing or revising their national policies on cooperatives;

3. *Encourages* Governments to keep under review, as appropriate, the legal and administrative provisions governing the activities of cooperatives, with a view to ensuring a supportive environment for them and to protecting and advancing the potential of cooperatives to help them to achieve their goals;

4. *Urges* Governments, relevant international organizations and specialized agencies, in collaboration with national and international cooperative organizations, to give due consideration to the role and contribution of cooperatives in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women and the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and their five-year reviews, as well as the World Food Summit, by, inter alia:

(*a*) Utilizing and developing fully the potential and contribution of cooperatives for the attainment of social development goals, in particular the eradication of poverty, the generation of full and productive employment and the enhancement of social integration;

(*b*) Encouraging and facilitating the establishment and development of cooperatives, including taking measures aimed at enabling people living in poverty or belonging to vulnerable groups to engage on a voluntary basis in the creation and development of cooperatives;

(*c*) Taking appropriate measures aimed at creating a supportive and enabling environment for the development of cooperatives by, inter alia, developing an effective partnership between Governments and the cooperative movement;

5. *Invites* Governments, in collaboration with the cooperative movement, to develop programmes to promote and strengthen the education of members, the elected leadership and professional cooperative management, where appropriate, and to create or improve statistical databases on the development of cooperatives and on their contribution to national economies;

6. *Invites* Governments, relevant international organizations, specialized agencies and local, national and international cooperative organizations to continue to observe the International Day of Cooperatives annually, on the first Saturday of July, as proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution 47/90;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the relevant United Nations and other international organizations and national, regional and international cooperative organizations, to render support to Member States, as appropriate, in their efforts to create a supportive environment for the development of cooperatives and to promote an exchange of experience and best practices, through, inter alia, conferences, workshops and seminars at the national and regional levels;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session.

RESOLUTION 56/115

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/572, para. 24)[7]

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[4] A/54/57, annex.

[5] A/56/73-E/2001/68 and Add.1.

[6] A/56/73-E/2001/68, annex.

[7] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Croatia, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Zimbabwe.

56/115. Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons: towards a society for all in the twenty-first century

The General Assembly,

Recalling the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and reaffirming the obligations contained in relevant human rights instruments, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[8] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[9]

Recalling also its resolutions 37/52 of 3 December 1982, by which it adopted the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons,[10] 48/96 of 20 December 1993, by which it adopted the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities, 49/153 of 23 December 1994, 50/144 of 21 December 1995, 52/82 of 12 December 1997 and 54/121 of 17 December 1999,

Recalling further all of its relevant resolutions on the equalization of opportunities for and the human rights of persons with disabilities, and those of the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted on 8 September 2000 by the heads of State and Government at the Millennium Summit of the United Nations,[11] and recognizing the need to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms of people with disabilities,

Noting with appreciation the actions of Governments to implement relevant sections of the Standard Rules and of relevant resolutions that give special attention to accessible environments and information and communications technologies, health, education and social services, employment and sustainable livelihoods, including the relevant activities of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations,

Reaffirming the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits and their respective follow-up reviews,

Noting with appreciation the assessment by the Secretary-General of the implementation of the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits to promote the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities, ensuring their full participation and equality, as well as the measures undertaken by the United Nations system aimed at preventing disabling conditions,[12]

Noting the invitation made to the General Assembly by the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held at Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001, to consider elaborating an integral and comprehensive international convention to protect and promote the rights and dignity of disabled people, including, in particular, provisions that address the discriminatory practices and treatment affecting them,

Acknowledging the important role of non-governmental organizations in the promotion and protection of the human rights of persons with disabilities, and noting in this regard their work in promoting the elaboration of an international convention on the rights of disabled persons,

Noting with appreciation the valuable work of the United Nations Voluntary Fund on Disability in supporting the building of national capacities to promote the Standard Rules in order to create opportunities for sustainable livelihoods by, for and with persons with disabilities,

Noting with appreciation also the important contributions of subregional, regional and international seminars and conferences related to persons with disabilities,

Mindful of the need to adopt and implement effective policies and strategies to promote the rights and the full and effective participation of persons with disabilities in economic, social, cultural and political life, on the basis of equality, to achieve a society for all,

Welcoming initiatives to hold international conferences relating to persons with disabilities, including the Sixth World Assembly of Disabled Peoples' International, to be held in Japan in 2002,

Concerned that improvement of awareness of and sensitivity to disability issues and respect for the human rights of disabled persons has not been significant enough to improve the quality of life of persons with disabilities worldwide,

Expressing grave concern that situations of armed conflict continue to have especially devastating consequences for the human rights of persons with disabilities,

Recognizing the importance of timely and reliable data on disability-sensitive topics, programme planning and evaluation and the need for further development of practical statistical methodology for the collection and compilation of data on populations with disabilities,

Reiterating that technology, in particular information and communications technology, provides new possibilities for improving accessibility and employment for persons with disabilities and for facilitating their full and effective participation and equality, and welcoming the initiatives of the United Nations in promoting information and communications technology as a means of achieving the universal goal of a society for all,

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[8] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[9] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[10] A/37/351/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex, sect. VIII, recommendation I (IV).

[11] See resolution 55/2.

[12] See A/56/169 and Corr.1, paras. 25 and 26.

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General[13] on the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons;[10]

2. *Welcomes* the many initiatives and actions of Governments and relevant United Nations bodies and rganizations, including relevant Bretton Woods institutions, as vell as non-governmental organizations, to enhance the rights f persons with disabilities and the further equalization of pportunities by, for and with persons with disabilities in all ectors of society;

3. *Notes with appreciation* the valuable work ndertaken by the Special Rapporteur on disability of the Commission for Social Development in monitoring the nplementation of the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities under his third nandate for the period 2000–2002, and also notes with ppreciation the work of the United Nations High Commissioner or Human Rights in supporting the work of the Special Rapporteur;

4. *Encourages* Governments, intergovernmental and on-governmental organizations and the private sector, as ppropriate, to continue to take concrete measures to promote e implementation of relevant United Nations resolutions and greed international standards concerning persons with isabilities, in particular the Standard Rules, and for the further qualization of opportunities for persons with disabilities by ocusing on accessibility, health, education, social services, ncluding training and rehabilitation, safety nets, employment nd sustainable livelihoods, in the design and implementation of rategies, policies and programmes to promote a more nclusive society;

5. *Calls upon* Governments to undertake all necessary neasures to advance beyond the adoption of national plans for eople with disabilities through, inter alia, the creation or einforcement of arrangements for the promotion and awareness f disability issues and the allocation of sufficient resources for e full implementation of existing plans and initiatives, and mphasizes in this regard the importance of supporting national fforts through international cooperation;

6. *Encourages* Governments and intergovernmental nd non-governmental organizations to continue to take ractical actions, including public information campaigns, by, or and with persons with disabilities, with a view to increasing wareness of and sensitivity to disability issues, combating and vercoming discrimination against persons with disabilities and rthering their full and effective participation in society;

7. *Encourages* Governments to continue their support non-governmental organizations contributing to the fulfilment of the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons;

8. *Also encourages* Governments to involve persons with disabilities in the formulation of strategies and plans aimed at eradicating poverty, promoting education and enhancing employment;

9. *Urges* relevant bodies and organizations of the United Nations system, including relevant human rights treaty bodies and the regional commissions, as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and institutions, to continue to work closely with the programme on disability of the Division for Social Policy and Development of the Secretariat in the promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities, including activities at the field level, by sharing experiences, findings and recommendations on persons with disabilities;

10. *Urges* Governments to cooperate with the Statistics Division of the Secretariat in the continued development of global statistics and indicators on disability, and encourages them to avail themselves of the technical assistance of the Division to build national capacities for national data collection systems, including the compilation and dissemination of data on disabled persons, as well as the development of methods for data collection and disability statistics, as appropriate;

11. *Urges* Governments, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to provide special protection to girls and women with disabilities, elderly people with disabilities and persons with developmental and psychiatric disabilities, with special emphasis on integrating them into society and protecting and promoting their human rights;

12. *Urges* Governments, in collaboration with the United Nations system, to give special attention to the rights, needs and well-being of children with disabilities and their families in the development of policies and programmes, including the implementation of the Standard Rules;

13. *Encourages* Governments, intergovernmental organizations, concerned non-governmental organizations and the private sector to continue to support the United Nations Voluntary Fund on Disability with a view to strengthening its capacity to support catalytic and innovative activities to implement fully the World Programme of Action and the Standard Rules, including the work of the Special Rapporteur, and to support activities to build national capacities, with emphasis on priorities for action identified in the present resolution;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to support initiatives of relevant bodies and organizations of the United Nations system, as well as those of regional, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and institutions, for the promotion of all human rights of, and non-discrimination in respect of, persons with disabilities and the further implementation of the World Programme of Action, as well as their efforts to integrate persons with disabilities in

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A/56/169 and Corr.1.

technical cooperation activities, both as beneficiaries and as decision makers;

15. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his efforts in improving the accessibility of the United Nations for persons with disabilities, and urges him to continue to implement plans to provide a barrier-free environment;

16. *Welcomes* the preparations proposed by the Secretary-General in his current report[13] for the fourth quinquennial review and appraisal of the World Programme of Action in 2002, including the proposed framework for that review, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, through the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council, a report on the findings and recommendations based on the review and appraisal, including a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/116

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/572, para. 24)[14]

56/116. United Nations Literacy Decade: education for all

The General Assembly,

Recalling that in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[15] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[16] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child[17] the right of every individual to education is recognized as inalienable,

Recalling also its resolutions 42/104 of 7 December 1987, by which it proclaimed 1990 as International Literacy Year, and 54/122 of 17 December 1999, in which it requested the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and Member States and with other relevant organizations and bodies, to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a proposal for a United Nations literacy decade, with a draft plan of action and possible time frame for such a decade, on the basis of the outcome of the World Education Forum and the special session of the General Assembly for the five-year review of the World Summit for Social Development,

Reaffirming its resolution 49/184 of 23 December 1994, by which it proclaimed the ten-year period beginning on 1 January 1995 the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education and appealed to all Governments to intensify their efforts to eradicate illiteracy and to direct education towards the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2001/29 of 20 April 2001 on the right to education,[18]

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration of 8 September 2000[19] in which Member States resolved to ensure that, by the year 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, would be able to complete a full course of primary schooling and that girls and boys would have equal access to all levels of education, which requires a renewed commitment to promote literacy for all,

Recalling also the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development[20] and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development[21] and the outcome document of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world",[22]

Convinced that literacy is crucial to the acquisition, by every child, youth and adult, of essential life skills that enable them to address the challenges they can face in life, and represents an essential step in basic education, which is an indispensable means for effective participation in the societies and economies of the twenty-first century,

Affirming that the realization of the right to education, especially for girls, contributes to the eradication of poverty,

Acknowledging the activities undertaken at the national and regional levels for the Education for All 2000 assessment of progress towards achieving the goals of education for all, and stressing further the need to redouble efforts in order to meet the basic needs of people of all age groups, in particular girls and women,

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[14] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, China, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, France, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela and Zambia.

[15] Resolution 217 A (III).

[16] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[17] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[18] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[19] See resolution 55/2.

[20] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[21] Ibid., annex II.

[22] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

Recognizing that, despite the significant progress in basic education, especially the increase in primary school enrolment coupled with a growing emphasis on the quality of education, major problems, both emerging and continuing, still persist, which require even more forceful and concerted action at the national and international levels so as to achieve the goal of education for all,

Deeply concerned about the persistence of the gender gap in education, which is reflected by the fact that nearly two thirds of the world's adult illiterates are women,

Urging Member States, in close partnership with international organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations, to promote the right to education for all and to create conditions for all for learning throughout life,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization entitled "Draft proposal and plan for a United Nations literacy decade";[23]

2. *Proclaims* the ten-year period beginning on 1 January 2003 the United Nations Literacy Decade;

3. *Reaffirms* the Dakar Framework for Action adopted at the World Education Forum,[24] in which commitments were made to achieve a 50 per cent improvement in levels of adult literacy by 2015 and to improve the quality of education;

4. *Appeals* to all Governments to redouble their efforts to achieve their own goals of education for all by developing national plans in accordance with the Dakar Framework for Action, setting firm targets and timetables, including gender-specific education targets and programmes, to eliminate gender disparities at all levels of education, to combat the illiteracy of women and girls and to ensure that girls and women have full and equal access to education, and by working in active partnership with communities, associations, the media and development agencies to reach those targets;

5. *Also appeals* to all Governments to reinforce political will and develop more inclusive policy-making environments and devise innovative strategies for reaching the poorest and most marginalized groups and for seeking alternative formal and non-formal approaches to learning with a view to achieving the goals of the Decade;

6. *Urges* all Governments to take the lead in the coordination of the Decade activities at the national level, bringing all relevant national actors together in sustained dialogue on policy formulation, implementation and evaluation of literacy efforts;

7. *Reaffirms* that literacy for all is at the heart of basic education for all and that creating literate environments and societies is essential for achieving the goals of eradicating poverty, reducing child mortality, curbing population growth, achieving gender equality and ensuring sustainable development, peace and democracy;

8. *Appeals* to all Governments and to economic and financial organizations and institutions, both national and international, to lend greater financial and material support to the efforts to increase literacy and achieve the goals of education for all and those of the Decade through, inter alia, the 20/20 initiative, as appropriate;

9. *Invites* Member States, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system as well as relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to intensify further their efforts to implement effectively the World Declaration on Education for All,[25] the Dakar Framework for Action and the relevant commitments and recommendations to promote literacy made at recent major United Nations conferences and at their five-year reviews with a view to better coordinating their activities and increasing their contribution to development within the framework of the Decade in a manner that is complementary to and coordinated with the ongoing education for all process;

10. *Decides* that the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization should take a coordinating role in stimulating and catalysing the activities at the international level within the framework of the Decade;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to seek and take into account comments and proposals from Governments and the relevant international organizations on the draft plan for the Decade in order to develop and finalize a well targeted and action-oriented plan of action to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session a question entitled "United Nations Literacy Decade".

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[23] See A/56/114-E/2001/93 and Add.1.

[24] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26–28 April 2000* (Paris, 2000).

[25] *Final Report of the World Conference on Education for All: Meeting Basic Learning Needs, Jomtien, Thailand, 5–9 March 1990*, Inter-Agency Commission (UNDP, UNESCO, UNICEF, World Bank) for the World Conference on Education for All, New York, 1990, appendix I.

RESOLUTION 56/117

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/572, para. 24)[26]

56/117. Policies and programmes involving youth

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 50/81 of 14 December 1995, by which it adopted the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond, annexed thereto, as an integral part of that resolution,

Recalling also its resolutions 32/135 of 16 December 1977 and 36/17 of 9 November 1981, by which it adopted guidelines for the improvement of the channels of communication between the United Nations and youth and youth organizations, and 40/14 of 18 November 1985, entitled "International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace", by which it endorsed the guidelines for further planning and suitable follow-up in the field of youth as contained in the report of the Advisory Committee for the International Youth Year on its fourth session, held at Vienna from 25 March to 3 April 1985,[27]

Recalling further its resolution 54/120 of 17 December 1999, in which it took note with appreciation of the Lisbon Declaration on Youth Policies and Programmes adopted at the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth in 1998,[28]

Welcoming the adoption of the Dakar Framework for Action at the World Education Forum,[29]

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted by the heads of State and Government on 8 September 2000,[30] and recognizing that the Declaration includes important goals and targets pertaining to youth,

Recalling and reaffirming the commitments made at the major United Nations conferences and summits since 1990 and their follow-up processes,

Noting in particular that, in the World Programme of Action, regional and interregional conferences of ministers responsible for youth affairs in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean and Western Asia were invited to intensify their cooperation and to consider meeting regularly at the international level under the aegis of the United Nations to provide an effective forum for a focused global dialogue on youth-related issues,

Recalling that, in the World Programme of Action, the World Youth Forum of the United Nations System was invited to contribute to the implementation of the Programme through the identification and promotion of joint initiatives to further its objectives so that they could better reflect the interests of youth,

Welcoming the support of the Government of Senegal for the holding of the fourth session of the World Youth Forum at Dakar from 6 to 10 August 2001,

Acknowledging that poverty, among other factors, represents a serious challenge to the full and effective participation and contribution of young people to society,

Recognizing that global cross-sectoral youth policies should take into consideration the empowerment and full and effective participation of young people, and their role as a resource and as independent decision-makers in all sectors of society,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond;[31]

2. *Calls upon* all States, all United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, the regional commissions and the intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, in particular youth organizations, to make every possible effort towards the implementation of the World Programme of Action, aiming at cross-sectoral youth policies by integrating a youth perspective into all planning and decision-making processes relevant to youth;

3. *Also calls upon* all parties concerned, as mentioned in paragraph 2 above, within the framework of the World Programme of Action, to consider the appropriate ways and means to provide follow-up to the Lisbon Declaration on Youth Policies and Programmes adopted at the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth;[28]

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[26] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Peru, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela.

[27] A/40/256, annex.

[28] See WCMRY/1998/28, chap. I, resolution 1.

[29] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26–28 April 2000* (Paris, 2000).

[30] See resolution 55/2.

[31] A/56/180.

4. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work by the regional commissions to implement the World Programme of Action and to follow up the World Conference in their respective regions, in coordination with regional meetings of ministers responsible for youth and regional non-governmental youth organizations, and to provide advisory services to support national youth policies and programmes in each region, and encourages them to continue to do so;

5. *Invites* all relevant programmes and funds, the specialized agencies and other bodies within the United Nations system, as well as other intergovernmental organizations and regional financial institutions, to give greater support to national youth policies and programmes within their country programmes as a way to follow up the World Conference;

6. *Calls upon* all States, all United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, the regional commissions and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, in particular youth organizations, to exchange knowledge and expertise on youth-related issues, upon setting up the ways and means to do so;

7. *Welcomes* the public information activities organized by the Secretariat for International Youth Day, 12 August, as a way to promote better awareness, especially among youth, of the World Programme of Action;

8. *Recognizes* that information and communications technology plays a crucial role as a potential means of promoting participation, access to information and education and networking possibilities for young people;

9. *Welcomes* the fact that the special session of the General Assembly on children will also discuss issues relevant to youth;

10. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Government of Senegal for its support to the fourth session of the World Youth Forum of the United Nations System, held at Dakar from 6 to 10 August 2001, where, once again, youth delegates had the opportunity to meet and debate strategies for youth empowerment;[32]

11. *Affirms* that future sessions of the World Youth Forum should integrate an active and representative involvement of youth organizations and young people into all planning, reviewing and decision-making processes, and invites the Secretary-General to conduct a thorough review of and provide recommendations on the Forum's structure, organization, participation, including to ensure that it is fully representative of all geographical regions and of a diversity of views, and processes, taking into account the views of Member States and youth organizations, and, in this context, to include this matter in his report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, through the Commission for Social Development at its forty-first session;

12. *Recognizes* the importance of the full and effective participation of youth and youth organizations at the local, national, regional and international levels in promoting and implementing the World Programme of Action and in evaluating the progress achieved and the obstacles encountered in its implementation and of the need to support the activities of youth mechanisms that have been set up by youth and youth organizations, bearing in mind that young people are active agents for positive change and development in society;

13. *Also recognizes* the great importance of the empowerment of youth through building the capacity of young people to achieve greater independence, overcoming constraints to their participation and providing them with opportunities to make decisions that affect their life and well-being;

14. *Reaffirms* the decision of the heads of State and Government, as contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[30] to develop and implement strategies that give young people everywhere a real chance to find decent and productive work, welcomes in this context the Secretary-General's initiative to create a Youth Employment Network, and invites the Secretary-General to continue with these initiatives;

15. *Expresses deep concern* over the fact that, currently, approximately half of new human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infections are in youth aged 15 to 24 years and that no fewer than 6,500 young people are infected by the virus each day, and reiterates the need to achieve the goals and commitments contained in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-sixth special session, held at Headquarters from 25 to 27 June 2001;[33]

16. *Reaffirms* the importance of schooling and education, in particular for girls and young women, and recognizes the value of all forms of life-long learning, including formal education and training and non-formal education;

17. *Calls upon* Member States, all United Nations bodies and non-governmental organizations to continue to implement fully the guidelines for further planning and suitable follow-up in the field of youth endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 40/14, and the guidelines for the improvement of the channels of communication between the United Nations and youth and youth organizations which the Assembly adopted by its resolutions 32/135 and 36/17, and in particular to facilitate, in accordance with these resolutions, the activities of youth mechanisms that have been set up by youth and youth organizations;

18. *Takes note with appreciation* of the important role of the United Nations Youth Fund in the implementation of agreed

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[32] See A/C.3/56/2, concerning the fourth session of the World Youth Forum.

[33] Resolution S-26/2, annex.

programmes and mandates on youth, including the provision of support for youth activities promoting South-South cooperation, and support for the participation of young delegates from the least developed countries at the fourth session of the World Youth Forum;

19. *Invites* all Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to contribute to the Fund, and requests the Secretary-General to take appropriate actions to encourage contributions;

20. *Reiterates* the call made in the World Programme of Action to Member States to consider including youth representatives in their delegations to the General Assembly and other relevant United Nations meetings, thus broadening the channels of communication and enhancing the discussion of youth-related issues, and requests the Secretary-General to convey this invitation again to Member States;

21. *Welcomes* Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/7 of 24 July 2001, in which the Council decided that the Commission for Social Development would review the relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups and the global situation of youth in 2003, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to present a comprehensive report on this issue, with concrete and action-oriented recommendations, to the Commission at its forty-first session, bearing in mind the need for Member States to develop more holistic and cross-sectoral youth policies and the need to enhance, inter alia, the channels of communication between the United Nations system and youth and youth organizations;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution, in particular on progress made in the implementation of the World Programme of Action.

RESOLUTION 56/118

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/573, para. 17)[34]

56/118. United Nations Trust Fund for Ageing

The General Assembly,

Noting the importance of the participation of developing countries and the least developed countries in the preparatory process for the Second World Assembly on Ageing and in the World Assembly itself,

Recalling its resolution 54/262 of 25 May 2000, in which it encouraged Member States and other actors to, inter alia, provide voluntary contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for Ageing in support of preparatory activities for the Second World Assembly, including the participation of the least developed countries,

1. *Urges* all Member States and other actors to contribute generously to the United Nations Trust Fund for Ageing, to support preparatory activities for the Second World Assembly on Ageing, in particular to facilitate the fullest participation of the least developed countries, and to support public information activities to promote the Second World Assembly and its outcome;

2. *Urges* all States and public and private organizations to contribute to the Trust Fund to support public information activities to promote the Second World Assembly and its outcome.

RESOLUTION 56/119

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/574, para. 21)[35]

56/119. Role, function, periodicity and duration of the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders

The General Assembly,

Recalling that, in its resolution 53/110 of 9 December 1998, it requested the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to review the role, function, periodicity and duration of the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders, including the issue of regional preparatory meetings for the congresses,

Taking note with appreciation of the results of the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,[36]

Bearing in mind that the congresses are a consultative body of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in accordance with paragraph 29 of the statement of principles and programme of action of the Programme, annexed to General Assembly resolution 46/152 of 18 December 1991,

Recognizing the significant contributions of the congresses to the promotion and strengthening of international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice,

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[34] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Economic and Social Council.

[35] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Economic and Social Council.

[36] See *Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Vienna, 10–17 April 2000: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.00.IV.8).

Recognizing also that the congresses have been a forum or promoting the exchange of experiences in research, law and olicy development and the identification of emerging trends nd issues in crime prevention and criminal justice among States, intergovernmental organizations and individual experts epresenting various professions and disciplines,

Recognizing further the role played by the congresses in reparing suggestions, for consideration by the Commission, on ossible subjects for its programme of work,

Aware of the need to review the functioning and method of work of the congresses in order to improve their effectiveness,

Noting with appreciation the offers made by the Governments of Mexico and Thailand to host the next congress,

1. *Decides* to continue holding the United Nations ongresses in accordance with paragraphs 29 and 30 of the tatement of principles and programme of action of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme,[37] following a dynamic, interactive and cost-effective method of work and a focused programme of work, and to call them the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal ustice;

2. *Also decides* that, beginning in 2005, the congresses, ursuant to paragraphs 29 and 30 of the statement of principles nd programme of action of the Programme, shall be held in ccordance with the following guidelines:

(*a*) Each congress shall discuss specific topics, including, where appropriate, a main topic, all of which shall be determined by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

(*b*) Each congress shall include one session of pre-ongress consultations;

(*c*) Each congress shall include a high-level segment in which States will be represented at the highest possible level nd will be given an opportunity to make statements on the opics of the congress;

(*d*) As part of the high-level segment, the heads of delegations or their representatives shall participate in a number f thematic interactive round tables in order to further the discussion on the topics of the congress through open dialogue;

(*e*) Panels of experts, to be selected by the Commission with due regard for the principle of equitable geographical distribution, shall hold workshops dealing with the topics of the ongress, maintaining an open dialogue with the participants nd avoiding the reading of statements;

(*f*) Institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network shall be invited to assist in the preparations for the workshops;

(*g*) The Secretary-General shall facilitate, within existing resources, the organization of ancillary meetings of non-governmental organizations and professional organizations at each congress;

(*h*) Each congress shall adopt a single declaration containing recommendations derived from the deliberations of the high-level segment, the round tables and the workshops, to be submitted to the Commission for its consideration;

(*i*) Any action suggested to the Commission regarding its programme of work, contained in the declaration of the congress, shall be undertaken through individual resolutions of the Commission;

(*j*) The Commission, as the preparatory body for the congress, shall request the Secretary-General to prepare only those background documents which are absolutely necessary for implementing the programme of work of the congress;

(*k*) Each congress shall be preceded by regional preparatory meetings, when necessary, and the costs of the regional preparatory meetings for each congress shall be streamlined by holding them in conjunction with other regional meetings, shortening their duration and limiting the preparation of background documents;

3. *Requests* the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to continue to act as the preparatory body for the congresses and to follow the guidelines contained in paragraph 2 above in organizing future congresses;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the staff required to serve as secretariat for the congresses and the regional preparatory meetings for the congresses;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat with the necessary resources, within the overall appropriations of the programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003, for the preparations for the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and to ensure that adequate resources are provided in the programme budget for the biennium 2004–2005 to support the holding of the Eleventh Congress;

6. *Requests* the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to formulate, at its eleventh session, recommendations regarding the Eleventh Congress, including recommendations on the main topic, the organization of round tables and workshops to be held by panels of experts and the venue and duration of the Eleventh Congress, and to submit

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[7] Resolution 46/152, annex.

those recommendations, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

7. *Also requests* the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to formulate, at its eleventh session, appropriate recommendations to enable the Economic and Social Council to introduce the necessary amendments to the rules of procedure for the congresses to reflect the guidelines contained in paragraph 2 above;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the proper follow-up to the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly, through the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its eleventh session.

RESOLUTION 56/120

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/574, para. 21)[38]

56/120. Action against transnational organized crime: assistance to States in capacity-building with a view to facilitating the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto

The General Assembly,

Deeply concerned at the impact of transnational organized crime on the political, social and economic stability and development of societies,

Bearing in mind that the fight against transnational organized crime is a common and shared responsibility of the international community, necessitating cooperation at the bilateral and multilateral levels,

Reaffirming its support and commitment to the goals of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, in particular, the objectives set forth in the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century,[39]

Recalling its resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000, in which it adopted the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto and urged all States and regional economic organizations to sign and ratify those international legal instruments,

Noting with appreciation the initiative of those States which have pledged financial contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund in order to enable developing countries and countries with economies in transition to initiate measures to implement the Convention and the Protocols thereto,

1. *Welcomes* the signing of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* for the offers of a number of Governments to host regional conferences at the ministerial level and for the financial contributions of a number of States for the purpose of holding pre-ratification seminars on facilitating the entry into force of the Convention and the Protocols thereto and their future implementation;

3. *Encourages* Member States to make adequate voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund for the provision to developing countries and countries with economies in transition of the technical assistance they may require for implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, including assistance for the preparatory measures needed for that implementation, taking into account article 30 of the Convention;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat with the resources necessary to enable it to promote, in an effective manner, the entry into force and implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, inter alia, through the provision of assistance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition for building capacity in the areas covered by the Convention and the Protocols thereto;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its eleventh session.

RESOLUTION 56/121

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/574, para. 21)[40]

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[38] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Economic and Social Council.

[39] Resolution 55/59, annex.

[40] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela and Yugoslavia.

1. Combating the criminal misuse of information technologies

The General Assembly,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[41] ich Member States resolved to ensure that the benefits of echnologies, especially information and communications ologies, in conformity with the recommendations ined in the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment substantive session of 2000 of the Economic and Social cil,[42] are available to all, and its resolution 55/63 of ember 2000, in which it invited Member States to take account measures to combat the criminal misuse of nation technologies,

Recognizing that the free flow of information can promote mic and social development, education and democratic nance,

Noting the significant advances in the development and ation of information technologies and means of mmunication,

Expressing concern that technological advances have d new possibilities for criminal activity, in particular the nal misuse of information technologies,

Noting that reliance on information technologies, while it vary from State to State, has resulted in a substantial se in global cooperation and coordination, with the result e criminal misuse of information technologies may have a impact on all States,

Recognizing that gaps in the access to and use of nation technologies by States can diminish the effectiveness ernational cooperation in combating the criminal misuse of nation technologies, and recognizing also the need to ate the transfer of information technologies, in particular to oping countries,

Noting the necessity of preventing the criminal misuse of nation technologies,

Recognizing the need for cooperation between States and rivate sector in combating the criminal misuse of nation technologies,

Underlining the need for enhanced coordination and ration among States in combating the criminal misuse of nation technologies, and, in this context, stressing the role an be played by the United Nations and other international egional organizations,

Welcoming the work of the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,

Recognizing with appreciation the work of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its ninth and tenth sessions and the subsequent preparation of a plan of action against high-technology and computer-related crime, which recognizes, inter alia, the need for effective law enforcement and the need to maintain effective protections for privacy and other related basic rights, as well as the need to take into account ongoing work in other forums,[43]

Noting the work of international and regional organizations in combating high-technology crime, including the work of the Council of Europe in elaborating the Convention on Cybercrime,[44] as well as the work of those organizations in promoting dialogue between government and the private sector on safety and confidence in cyberspace,

1. *Invites* Member States, when developing national law, policy and practice to combat the criminal misuse of information technologies, to take into account, as appropriate, the work and achievements of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and of other international and regional organizations;

2. *Takes note* of the value of the measures set forth in its resolution 55/63, and again invites Member States to take them into account in their efforts to combat the criminal misuse of information technologies;

3. *Decides* to defer consideration of this subject, pending work envisioned in the plan of action against high-technology and computer-related crime of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.[43]

RESOLUTION 56/122

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/574, para. 21)[45]

56/122. United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/62 of 4 December 2000 and all other relevant resolutions,

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resolution 55/2.

Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, ement No. 3 (A/55/3/Rev.1), chap. III, para. 17.

[43] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 10* (E/2001/30/Rev.1), part two, chap. I.

[44] Council of Europe, *European Treaty Series*, No. 185.

[45] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Sudan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States) and Suriname.

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[46]

Bearing in mind the urgent need to establish effective crime prevention strategies for Africa, as well as the importance of law enforcement agencies and the judiciary at the regional and subregional levels,

Noting that the financial situation of the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders has greatly affected its capacity to deliver its services to African Member States in an effective and comprehensive manner,

1. *Commends* the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders for its efforts to promote and coordinate regional technical cooperation activities related to crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa;

2. *Also commends* the Secretary-General for his efforts to mobilize the financial resources necessary to provide the Institute with the core professional staff required to enable it to function effectively in the fulfilment of its mandated obligations;

3. *Reiterates* the need to strengthen further the capacity of the Institute to support national mechanisms for crime prevention and criminal justice in African countries;

4. *Urges* the States members of the Institute to make every possible effort to meet their obligations to the Institute;

5. *Calls upon* all Member States and non-governmental organizations to adopt concrete practical measures to support the Institute in the development of the requisite capacity and implement its programmes and activities aimed at strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to intensify efforts to mobilize all relevant entities of the United Nations system to provide the necessary financial and technical support to the Institute to enable it to fulfil its mandate;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to deploy his efforts to mobilize the financial resources necessary to maintain the Institute with the core professional staff required to enable it to function effectively in the fulfilment of its mandated obligations;

8. *Calls upon* the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to work closely with the Institute;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to enhance the promotion of regional cooperation, coordination and collaboration in the fight against crime, especially in its transnational dimension, which cannot be dealt with adequately by national action alone;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to make concrete proposals, including the provision of additional core professional staff, to strengthen the programmes and activities of the Institute and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/123

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/574, para. 21)[47]

56/123. Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/152 of 18 December 1991 on the creation of an effective United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in which it approved the statement of principles and programme of action annexed to that resolution,

Emphasizing the role of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, specifically the reduction of criminality, more efficient and effective law enforcement and administration of justice, respect for human rights and promotion of the highest standards of fairness, humanity and professional conduct,

Recognizing that action against global criminal activity is a common and shared responsibility,

Convinced of the desirability of closer coordination and cooperation among States in combating crime, including the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons, especially women and children, drug-related crimes such as money-laundering, illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and criminal activities carried out for the purpose of furthering terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, bearing in mind the role that could be played by both the United Nations and regional organizations in this respect,

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[46] A/56/151.

[47] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United Republic of Tanzania.

Recognizing the urgent need to increase technical cooperation activities to assist countries, in particular developing countries and countries with economies in transition, with their efforts in translating United Nations policy guidelines into practice,

Recalling its resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000, by which it adopted the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, and its resolution 55/255 of 31 May 2001, by which it adopted the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition,

Welcoming the adoption of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto as a milestone to fight and prevent organized crime, one of the most serious contemporary threats to democracy and peace,

Emphasizing the importance of the expeditious entry into force of the Convention and the Protocols thereto,

Recognizing the need to maintain a balance in the technical cooperation capacity of the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat between the immediate priority of the Convention and the Protocols thereto and other priorities identified by the Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, in which it requested the Secretary-General, as a matter of urgency, to provide the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme with sufficient resources for the full implementation of its mandate, in conformity with the high priority attached to the Programme,

Bearing in mind the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/59 of 4 December 2000, and the plans of action for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration proposed by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,[48]

Welcoming the report of the Meeting of the Intergovernmental Open-ended Expert Group to Prepare Draft Terms of Reference for the Negotiation of an International Legal Instrument against Corruption, held at Vienna from 30 July to 3 August 2001,[49]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 55/64 of 4 December 2000;[50]

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in promoting effective action to strengthen international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice, in responding to the needs of the international community in the face of both national and transnational criminality, and in assisting Member States in achieving the goals of preventing crime within and among States and improving the response to crime;

3. *Also reaffirms* the role of the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat in providing to Member States, upon request, technical cooperation, advisory services and other forms of assistance in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, including in the areas of prevention and control of transnational organized crime and terrorism;

4. *Welcomes* the programme of work of the Centre, including the three global programmes addressing, respectively, the trafficking in human beings, corruption and organized crime, formulated on the basis of close consultations with Member States and review by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and calls upon the Secretary-General further to strengthen the Centre by providing it with the resources necessary for the full implementation of its mandate;

5. *Supports* the high priority given to technical cooperation and advisory services in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, including in the areas of prevention and control of transnational organized crime and terrorism, and stresses the need to enhance the operational activities of the Centre to assist, in particular, developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

6. *Urges* States and relevant international organizations to develop national, regional and international strategies and other necessary measures which complement the work of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in addressing effectively the significant problems posed by the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons and related activities;

7. *Welcomes* the increased number of technical assistance projects in the field of juvenile justice, reflecting an increased awareness among Member States of the importance of juvenile justice reform in establishing and maintaining stable societies and the rule of law;

8. *Invites* all States to support, through voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and

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[48] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 10* (E/2001/30/Rev.1), part two, chap. I.

[49] See A/56/402-E/2001/105.

[50] A/56/155.

Criminal Justice Fund, the operational activities of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme;

9. *Encourages* relevant programmes, funds and organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, international financial institutions, in particular the World Bank, and regional and national funding agencies, to support the technical operational activities of the Centre;

10. *Urges* States and funding agencies to review, as appropriate, their funding policies for development assistance and to include a crime prevention and criminal justice component in such assistance;

11. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to exercise more vigorously its mandated function of resource mobilization, and calls upon the Commission to strengthen further its activities in this direction;

12. *Expresses its appreciation* to non-governmental organizations and other relevant sectors of civil society for their support to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme;

13. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention to enhance the synergies between the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the Centre for International Crime Prevention, in conformity with the reform proposals of the Secretary-General;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures to provide adequate support to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as the principal policy-making body in this field, in performing its activities, including cooperation and coordination with other relevant bodies;

15. *Invites* States to make adequate voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund in order to strengthen the capacity of the Centre to provide technical assistance to requesting States for the implementation of the commitments entered into at the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, including the measures outlined in the plans of action to implement the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century;[48]

16. *Urges* all States and regional economic organizations that have not yet done so to sign and ratify the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto as soon as possible in order to ensure the speedy entry into force of the Convention and the Protocols thereto;

17. *Welcomes* the voluntary contributions already made, and encourages States to make adequate and regular voluntary contributions for the entry into force and implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, through the United Nations funding mechanism specifically designed for that purpose in the Convention;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures and provide adequate support to the Centre during the biennium 2002–2003 so as to enable it to promote the speedy entry into force of the Convention and the Protocols thereto;

19. *Invites* the Secretary-General to consider, in consultation with Member States and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, the ways in which the Centre could contribute to the efforts of the United Nations system against terrorism, in accordance with relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions;

20. *Welcomes* the decision of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to mainstream a gender perspective into its activities and its request to the Secretariat that a gender perspective be integrated into all activities of the Centre;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session.

RESOLUTION 56/124

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/575, para. 8)[51]

56/124. International cooperation against the world drug problem

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/92 of 12 December 1997, 53/115 of 9 December 1998, 54/132 of 17 December 1999 and 55/65 of 4 December 2000,

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[51] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Recalling also its resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000, entitled "United Nations Millennium Declaration", in which the world leaders resolved to redouble efforts to counter the world drug problem,

Reaffirming its commitment to the outcome of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly, devoted to countering the world drug problem together, held in New York from 8 to 10 June 1998, and welcoming the continued determination of Governments to overcome the world drug problem by a full and balanced application of national, regional and international strategies to reduce the demand for, production of and trafficking in illicit drugs, as reflected in the Political Declaration,[52] the Action Plan[53] for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction[54] and the measures to enhance international cooperation to counter the world drug problem,[55]

Gravely concerned that, despite continued increased efforts by States, relevant international organizations, civil society and non-governmental organizations, the drug problem is still a challenge of a global dimension which constitutes a serious threat to the health, safety and well-being of all mankind, in particular young people, in all countries, undermines development, including efforts to reduce poverty, socio-economic and political stability and democratic institutions, entails an increasing economic cost for Governments, also threatens the national security and sovereignty of States, as well as the dignity and hope of millions of people and their families, and causes irreparable loss of human lives,

Concerned that the demand for, production of and trafficking in illicit drugs and psychotropic substances continue to threaten seriously the socio-economic and political systems, stability, national security and sovereignty of many States, especially those involved in conflicts and wars, and that trafficking in drugs could make conflict resolution more difficult,

Deeply alarmed by the violence and economic power of criminal organizations and terrorist groups engaged in drug-trafficking activities and other criminal activities, such as money-laundering and illicit traffic in arms, precursors and essential chemicals, and by the increasing transnational links between them, and recognizing the urgent need for enhanced international cooperation and implementation of effective strategies on the basis of the outcome of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly, which are essential to achieving results against all forms of transnational criminal activities,

Welcoming the call on States and appropriate international and regional organizations in a position to do so to provide assistance, upon request, to combat the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons linked to drug trafficking, transnational organized crime and terrorism, as expressed in the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[56]

Noting with grave concern the global increase in the use of minors in the illicit production of and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, as well as in the number of children and young people starting to use drugs at an earlier age and in their access to substances not previously used,

Alarmed by the rapid and widespread increase in the illicit manufacture, trafficking and consumption, in particular by young people, of synthetic drugs in many countries and by the high probability that amphetamine-type stimulants, in particular methamphetamine and amphetamine, may become drugs of choice among abusers in the twenty-first century,

Deeply convinced that the special session made a significant contribution to a new comprehensive framework for international cooperation, based on an integrated and balanced approach with strategies, measures, methods, practical activities, goals and specific targets to be met, that all States, the United Nations system and other international organizations must implement them with concrete actions and that the international financial institutions, such as the World Bank, and the regional development banks should be invited to include action against the world drug problem in their programmes, taking into account the priorities of States,

Reaffirming the importance of the commitments of Member States in meeting the objectives targeted for 2003 and 2008, as set out in the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, and welcoming the guidelines for reporting on the follow-up to the twentieth special session adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its reconvened forty-second session,[57] as well as the elements recommended to the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme by the Commission at its forty-fourth session for the preparation of subsequent reports,[58]

Welcoming the inclusion in the provisional agenda of the forty-fifth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of an item on the preparations for the ministerial segment to be held in 2003, in line with Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/30 of 28 July 1999, to focus on the progress made by

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[52] Resolution S-20/2, annex.

[53] Resolution 54/132, annex.

[54] Resolution S-20/3, annex.

[55] Resolution S-20/4.

[56] See A/CONF.192/15, chap. IV.

[57] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 8* (E/1999/28/Rev.1), part two, chap. I, resolution 42/11, annex.

[58] Ibid., *2001, Supplement No. 8* (E/2001/28), chap. I, sect. C, resolution 44/2.

States in implementing the action plan and measures adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session,

Emphasizing the importance of the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction, which introduces a global approach, recognizing a new balance between illicit supply and demand reduction, under the principle of shared responsibility, aims at preventing the use of drugs and at reducing the adverse consequences of drug abuse, ensuring that special attention is paid to vulnerable groups, in particular children and young people, and constitutes one of the pillars of the new global strategy, and reaffirming the need for demand reduction programmes,

Emphasizing equally the importance of supply reduction as an integral part of a balanced drug control strategy under the principles enshrined in the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development,[59] reaffirming the need for alternative development programmes that are sustainable, welcoming the achievements of some States on their way to eradicating illicit drug crops, and urging all other States to make similar efforts,

Underlining the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as the principal United Nations policy-making body on drug control issues and as the governing body of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, the leadership role and commendable work of the Programme as the main focus for concerted multilateral action and the important role of the International Narcotics Control Board as an independent monitoring authority, as set out in the international drug control treaties,

Recognizing the efforts of all countries, in particular those that produce narcotic drugs for scientific and medical purposes, and of the International Narcotics Control Board in preventing the diversion of such substances to illicit markets and in maintaining production at a level consistent with licit demand, in line with the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961[60] and the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,[61]

Recognizing also that the problem of the illicit production of and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances is often related to development problems and that those links and the promotion of the economic development of countries affected by the illicit drug trade require, within the context of shared responsibility, appropriate measures, including strengthened international cooperation in support of alternative and sustainable development activities, in the affected areas of those countries, that have as their objectives the reduction and elimination of illicit drug production,

Stressing that respect for all human rights is and must be an essential component of measures taken to address the drug problem,

Ensuring that women and men benefit equally, and without any discrimination, from strategies directed against the world drug problem, through their involvement in all stages of programmes and policy-making,

Recognizing that the use of the Internet poses new opportunities for and challenges to international cooperation in countering drug abuse and illicit producion and trafficking, and recognizing also the need for increased cooperation among States and the exchange of information, including with reference to national experiences, on how to counter the promotion of drug abuse and illicit drug trafficking through this instrument and on ways to use the Internet for information concerning drug demand reduction,

Convinced that civil society, including non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations, play an active role and make an effective contribution to countering the world drug problem, and should be encouraged to continue to do so,

Acknowledging with appreciation the increased efforts and achievements of many States, relevant international organizations and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, in countering drug abuse and illicit production of and trafficking in drugs, and that international cooperation has shown that positive results can be achieved through sustained and collective efforts,

I

Respect for the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and international law in countering the world drug problem

1. *Reaffirms* that countering the world drug problem is a common and shared responsibility which must be addressed in a multilateral setting, requiring an integrated and balanced approach, and must be carried out in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, and in particular with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

2. *Calls upon* all States to take further action to promote effective cooperation at the international and regional levels in the efforts to counter the world drug problem so as to contribute to a climate conducive to achieving that end, on the basis of the principles of equal rights and mutual respect;

3. *Urges* all States to ratify or accede to and implement all the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs

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[59] Resolution S-20/4 E.

[60] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 520, No. 7515.

[61] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.

of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[62] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971[61] and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988;[63]

II

International cooperation to counter the world drug problem

1. *Urges* all States to take appropriate action to address the linkages between the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and the illicit trade in narcotic drugs through, inter alia, increased international cooperation and by ensuring full implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects;[56]

2. *Welcomes* the renewed commitment made in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[64] to counter the world drug problem;

3. *Urges* competent authorities, at the international, regional and national levels, to implement the outcome of the twentieth special session, within the agreed time frames, in particular the high-priority practical measures at the international, regional or national level, as indicated in the Political Declaration,[52] the Action Plan[53] for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction[54] and the measures to enhance international cooperation to counter the world drug problem,[55] including the Action Plan against Illicit Manufacture, Trafficking and Abuse of Amphetamine-type Stimulants and Their Precursors,[65] the measures to prevent the illicit manufacture, import, export, trafficking, distribution and diversion of precursors used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,[66] the measures to promote judicial cooperation,[67] the measures to counter money-laundering[68] and the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development;[59]

4. *Urges* all Member States to implement the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction in their respective national, regional and international actions and to strengthen their national efforts to counter the abuse of illicit drugs among their population, in particular among children and young people;

5. *Recognizes* the role of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme in developing action-oriented strategies to assist Member States to implement the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration, and requests the Executive Director of the Programme to report to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its forty-fifth session on the follow-up to the Action Plan;

6. *Reaffirms its resolve* to continue to strengthen the United Nations machinery for international drug control, in particular the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the International Narcotics Control Board, in order to enable them to fulfil their mandates, bearing in mind the recommendations contained in Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/30 and the measures taken and recommendations adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its forty-fourth session aimed at the enhancement of its functioning, in particular regarding Commission resolution 44/16;[69]

7. *Renews its commitment* to further strengthening international cooperation and substantially increasing efforts to counter the world drug problem, in accordance with the obligations of States under the United Nations drug control conventions, on the basis of the general framework given by the outcome of the special session, and taking into account experience gained;

8. *Calls upon* all States to adopt effective measures, including national laws and regulations, to implement the outcome and the goals of the special session, within the agreed time frame, to strengthen national judicial systems and to carry out effective drug control activities in cooperation with other States and in accordance with United Nations drug control conventions;

9. *Calls upon* the relevant United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, the international financial institutions and other concerned intergovernmental and international organizations, within their mandates, and all actors of civil society, notably non-governmental organizations, community-based organizations, sports associations, the media and the private sector, to continue their close cooperation with Governments in their efforts to promote and implement the outcome of the special session and the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction, including through public information campaigns, resorting, inter alia, where available, to the Internet;

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[62] Ibid., vol. 976, No. 14152.

[63] See *Official Records of the United Nations Conference for the Adoption of a Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, Vienna, 25 November–20 December 1988*, vol. I (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.XI.5).

[64] See resolution 55/2.

[65] Resolution S-20/4 A.

[66] See resolution S-20/4 B.

[67] Resolution S-20/4 C.

[68] Resolution S-20/4 D.

[69] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 8* (E/2001/28), chap. I, sect. C.

10. *Urges* Governments, the relevant United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies and other international organizations to assist and support States, upon request, in particular developing countries in need of such assistance and support, with the aim of enhancing their capacity to counter illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, taking into account national plans and initiatives, and emphasizes the importance of subregional, regional and international cooperation in countering illicit drug trafficking;

11. *Reaffirms* that preventing the diversion of chemicals from legitimate commerce to illicit drug manufacture is an essential component of a comprehensive strategy against drug abuse and trafficking, which requires the effective cooperation of exporting, importing and transit States, notes the progress made in developing practical guidelines to prevent such diversion of chemicals, including those of the International Narcotics Control Board and the recommendations on implementing article 12 of the 1988 Convention, and calls upon all States to adopt and implement measures to prevent the diversion of chemicals to illicit drug manufacture, in cooperation with competent international and regional bodies and, if necessary and to the extent possible, with the private sector in each State, in accordance with the objectives targeted for 2003 and 2008 in the Political Declaration and the resolution on the control of precursors adopted at the special session;[66]

12. *Calls upon* States in which cultivation and production of illicit drug crops occur to establish or reinforce, where appropriate, national mechanisms to monitor and verify illicit crops, and requests the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to report to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its forty-fifth session, in March 2002, on the follow-up to the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development;

13. *Encourages* States to open their markets to products that are the object of alternative development programmes, and which are necessary for the creation of employment and the eradication of poverty;

14. *Calls upon* States, the international community, international organizations, regional organizations, international financial institutions and regional development banks to support the implementation of the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development by States affected by illicit crop cultivation to enable them to apply fully measures for drug eradication and sustainable alternative development;

15. *Encourages* States further to cooperate through bilateral, regional and multilateral means to avoid displacement of illicit drug crop cultivation from one area, region or country to another;

16. *Calls upon* all States to report biennially to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on their efforts to meet the goals and targets for 2003 and 2008, as set out in the Political Declaration adopted at the special session, in accordance with the terms established in the guidelines adopted by the Commission at its forty-second and forty-fourth sessions;

17. *Welcomes* the decision of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to submit a report to the General Assembly in 2003 and 2008[70] on the progress achieved in meeting the goals and targets set out in the Political Declaration;

18. *Encourages* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the International Narcotics Control Board to continue their useful work on the control of precursors and other chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

19. *Calls upon* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to continue mainstreaming a gender perspective into all its policies, programmes and activities, and requests the Secretariat to continue integrating a gender perspective into all documentation prepared for the Commission;

20. *Recalls* the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond adopted by the General Assembly on 14 December 1995,[71] notes with satisfaction the commitment of young people to a drug-free society made at various forums, and stresses the importance of young people continuing to contribute their experiences and to participate in the decision-making processes and, in particular, putting into effect the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction;

21. *Urges* all States to assign priority to activities aimed at preventing drug and inhalant abuse among children and young people, inter alia, through the promotion of information and education programmes aimed at raising awareness of the risks of drug abuse with a view to giving effect to the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction;

22. *Welcomes* the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS adopted on 27 June 2001 at the special session of the General Assembly on HIV/AIDS,[72] including the acknowledgement of the link between drug-using behaviour and HIV infection;

23. *Calls upon* States to adopt effective measures, including possible national legislative measures, and to enhance cooperation to stem the illicit trade in small arms, which, as a result of its close link to the illicit drug trade, is generating extremely high levels of crime and violence within the societies

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[70] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 8* (E/1999/28/Rev.1), part two, chap. I, resolution 42/11, para. 8.

[71] Resolution 50/81, annex.

[72] Resolution S-26/2, annex.

of some States, threatening the national security and the economies of those States;

24. *Welcomes* the adoption of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[73] and the three Protocols thereto, namely, the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children,[74] the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air[75] and the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition,[76] and encourages universal signature and ratification of these legal instruments;

25. *Stresses* the need for coordinated action to reduce the demand for illicit drugs, in the context of a comprehensive, balanced and coordinated approach encompassing supply control and demand reduction, as set out in the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction, noting, inter alia, the links between drug trafficking, organized crime and terrorism;

26. *Welcomes* the thematic debate on the theme "Building partnerships to address the world drug problem", which allowed a useful exchange of ideas on the topics "Approaches to building partnerships within and across sectors, including health, education, law enforcement and justice" and "Prevention, education and early intervention strategies and trends in drug abuse among children and young people" at the forty-fourth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, and the continuation of a focused thematic debate;

27. *Recognizes* the desirability of providing support to the States that are most affected by the transit of drugs and are willing to implement plans to eliminate such transit, and in this regard requests the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to extend technical assistance, from available voluntary contributions for that purpose, to those States that are most affected by the transit of drugs, in particular developing countries in need of such assistance and support;

28. *Urges* all States to develop and implement policies and programmes for children, including adolescents, aimed at preventing the use of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and inhalants, except for medical purposes, and at reducing the adverse consequences of their abuse, as well as support preventive policies and programmes, especially against tobacco and alcohol;

29. *Also urges* all States to make appropriate treatment and rehabilitation accessible for children, including adolescents, dependent on narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances, inhalants and alcohol;

III

Action by the United Nations system

1. *Emphasizes* the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as the principal United Nations policy-making body on drug control issues and as the governing body of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme;

2. *Reaffirms* the role of the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme in coordinating and providing effective leadership for all United Nations drug control activities so as to increase cost-effectiveness and ensure coherence of action, as well as coordination, complementarity and non-duplication of such activities throughout the United Nations system, and encourages further efforts in this regard;

3. *Emphasizes* that the multidimensional nature of the world drug problem calls for the promotion of integration and coordination of drug control activities throughout the United Nations system, including in the follow-up to major United Nations conferences;

4. *Invites* Governments and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to attach high priority to the improvement of the coordination of United Nations activities related to the world drug problem so as to avoid duplication of such activities, strengthen efficiency and accomplish the goals approved by Governments;

5. *Urges* the specialized agencies, programmes and funds, including humanitarian organizations, and invites multilateral financial institutions, to include action against the world drug problem in their programming and planning processes in order to ensure that the integral and balanced strategy that emerged from the special session devoted to countering the world drug problem together is being addressed;

IV

United Nations International Drug Control Programme

1. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to implement its mandate within the framework of the international drug control treaties, the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control,[77] the Global Programme of Action,[78] the outcome of the special session of the General

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[73] Resolution 55/25, annex I.

[74] Ibid., annex II.

[75] Ibid., annex III.

[76] Resolution 55/255, annex.

[77] See *Report of the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, Vienna, 17–26 June 1987* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.87.I.18), chap. I, sect. A.

[78] See resolution S-17/2, annex.

Assembly devoted to countering the world drug problem together and relevant consensus documents;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Programme for the support provided to different States in meeting the objectives of the Global Programme of Action and of the special session, especially in cases where significant and anticipated progress was achieved regarding the objectives targeted for 2003 and 2008;

3. *Requests* the Programme to continue:

(*a*) To strengthen dialogue with Member States and also to ensure continued improvement in management, so as to contribute to enhanced and sustainable programme delivery and further encourage the Executive Director to maximize the effectiveness of the Programme, inter alia, through the full implementation of resolution 44/16 of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in particular the recommendations contained therein;

(*b*) To strengthen cooperation with Member States and with United Nations programmes, funds and relevant agencies, as well as relevant regional organizations and agencies and non-governmental organizations, and to provide, on request, assistance in implementing the outcome of the special session;

(*c*) To increase its technical assistance, within the available voluntary resources, to countries that are deploying efforts to reduce illicit crop cultivation by, in particular, adopting alternative development programmes;

(*d*) To allocate, while keeping the balance between supply and demand reduction programmes, adequate resources to allow it to fulfil its role in the implementation of the Action Plan[53] for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction;[54]

(*e*) To strengthen dialogue and cooperation with multilateral development banks and with international financial institutions so that they may undertake lending and programming activities related to drug control in interested and affected countries to implement the outcome of the special session, and to keep the Commission on Narcotic Drugs informed of further progress made in this area;

(*f*) To take into account the outcome of the special session, to include in its report on illicit traffic in drugs an updated, objective and comprehensive assessment of worldwide trends in illicit traffic and transit in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including methods and routes used, and to recommend ways and means of improving the capacity of States along those routes to deal with all aspects of the drug problem;

(*g*) To publish the *World Drug Report*, with comprehensive and balanced information about the world drug problem, and to seek additional extrabudgetary resources for its publication in all official languages;

4. *Urges* all Governments to provide the fullest possible financial and political support to the Programme by widening its donor base and increasing voluntary contributions, in particular general-purpose contributions, to enable it to continue, expand and strengthen its operational and technical cooperation activities;

5. *Calls upon* the International Narcotics Control Board to increase efforts to implement all its mandates under international drug control conventions and to continue to cooperate with Governments, inter alia, by offering advice to Member States that request it;

6. *Notes* that the Board needs sufficient resources to carry out all its mandates, and therefore urges Member States to commit themselves in a common effort to assigning adequate and sufficient budgetary resources to the Board, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/20 of 23 July 1996, and emphasizes the need to maintain its capacity, inter alia, through the provision of appropriate means by the Secretary-General and adequate technical support by the Programme;

7. *Stresses* the importance of the meetings of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, in all regions of the world, and the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, and encourages them to continue to contribute to the strengthening of regional and international cooperation, taking into account the outcome of the special session;

8. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[79] and, taking into account the promotion of integrated reporting, requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the outcome of the twentieth special session, including on the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction, and the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/125

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/576, para. 36)[80]

56/125. Critical situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/219 of 23 December 2000, in which it decided to provide the International Research and

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[79] A/56/157.

[80] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Greece, Iran (Islamic Republic of) (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Italy, Portugal and Spain.

Training Institute for the Advancement of Women with financial assistance on a non-recurrent basis, enabling the Institute to continue its activities throughout 2001,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/40 of 26 July 2001 and the recommendation contained therein that the General Assembly consider the transfer of any balance remaining from the $800,000 advance for 2001 to the Institute as a reserve for 2002,

Recognizing that, despite the persistent difficulties and uncertainties that the Institute has confronted during the past two years, it has managed to secure the minimal resources with which to respond to the mandates given by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[81]

2. *Commends* the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women for the successive implementation of phases I and II of the Gender Awareness Information and Networking System and the initiation of phase III;

3. *Expresses its concern* that, since the departure of the Director in July 2001, and notwithstanding the severe predicament of the Institute, a new Director has not yet been appointed;

4. *Decides*:

(*a*) To establish a working group composed of two governmental representatives from each of the five regional groups of the United Nations and one representative of the host country, the mandate of the working group being to make recommendations to the General Assembly before the end of the fifty-sixth session, for its consideration by the end of 2002, on the future operation of the Institute;

(*b*) To examine ways, within the framework of General Assembly resolution 55/219 and Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/40, in which the Institute could be provided with resources to enable it to continue its operation until the Assembly has considered the recommendations of the working group;

5. *Urges* the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To appoint a Director of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women as soon as possible in order to provide the Institute with the required leadership;

(*b*) To continue to encourage Member States to support the Institute by making voluntary contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2002, on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/126

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/576, para. 36)[82]

56/126. Situation of older women in society

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the obligations of all States to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms as stated in the Charter of the United Nations, and emphasizing also their obligations under the human rights instruments, in particular the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[83] and the Optional Protocol thereto,[84]

Recalling its resolution 44/76 of 8 December 1989 on elderly women, Economic and Social Council resolutions 1982/23 of 4 May 1982 on elderly women and the World Assembly on Ageing and 1986/26 of 23 May 1986 and 1989/38 of 24 May 1989 on elderly women, and resolution 36/4 of 20 March 1992 of the Commission on the Status of Women, on the integration of elderly women into development,[85]

Recalling also the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"[86] and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[87] in particular their provisions regarding older women,

Welcoming the convening of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, to be held at Madrid in April 2002,

Aware that women constitute the majority of older populations in all regions of the world and represent an important human resource, whose contribution to society has not been fully recognized,

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[81] A/56/279.

[82] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Dominica, Ethiopia, Fiji, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Luxembourg, Mongolia, Netherlands, Panama, Philippines, Portugal, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Spain, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago and Uganda.

[83] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[84] Resolution 54/4, annex.

[85] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1992, Supplement No. 4* (E/1992/24), chap. I, sect. C.

[86] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[87] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

Recognizing the increasing role of older women in taking the responsibility of providing care and assistance to victims of the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) in various regions of the world, particularly in developing countries,

Affirming the dual challenges of ageing and disability, and affirming also that older persons have specific health needs and that, with the increase in life expectancy and the growing number of older women, their health concerns require particular attention and further research,

Aware that few statistics are available on the situation of older women, and recognizing the importance of data, including data disaggregated by age and sex, as an essential element of planning and policy evaluations,

Recognizing that women of all ages, in particular older women, continue to suffer from discrimination and lack of opportunities,

Emphasizing that Governments bear the primary responsibility for creating an enabling environment for the economic and social development of their citizens, and noting with appreciation the valuable contributions of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, in calling attention to the specific needs of older women,

1. *Stresses* the importance of mainstreaming a gender perspective, taking into account the needs of older women, in policy and planning processes at all levels;

2. *Also stresses* the need to eliminate discrimination on the basis of gender and age and ensure equal rights and their full enjoyment for women of all ages;

3. *Urges* Governments and regional and international organizations, including the United Nations system in cooperation with civil society, including the non-governmental organizations concerned, to promote programmes for healthy active ageing that stress the independence, equality, participation and security of older women and undertake gender-specific research and programmes to address their needs;

4. *Emphasizes* the need for Governments and regional and international organizations, including the United Nations system and the international financial institutions, to develop and improve the collection, analysis and dissemination of data disaggregated by age and sex;

5. *Urges* Governments to take measures to enable all older women to be engaged actively in all aspects of life, as well as to assume a variety of roles in communities, public life and decision-making, and to develop and implement policies and programmes in cooperation with civil society, including the non-governmental organizations concerned, to ensure their full enjoyment of human rights and quality of life, as well as to address their needs, with a view to contributing to the realization of a society for all ages;

6. *Invites* Governments, the United Nations system and international organizations to consider, in their development planning, the increasing responsibilities of older women in providing care and assistance to victims of HIV/AIDS;

7. *Invites* Governments and the United Nations system to give attention to the situation of older women in the context of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, to be held at Madrid in April 2002, including the integration of a gender perspective into the outcome document.

RESOLUTION 56/127

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/576, para. 36)[88]

56/127. Improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system

The General Assembly,

Recalling Articles 1 and 101 of the Charter of the United Nations, as well as Article 8, which provides that the United Nations shall place no restrictions on the eligibility of men and women to participate in any capacity and under conditions of equality in its principal and subsidiary organs,

Recalling also the goal, contained in the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women,[89] of achieving overall gender equality, particularly at the Professional level and above, by 2000 and the further actions and initiatives set out in the outcome document adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-third special session entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[90]

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[88] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela and Zambia.

[89] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

Recalling further its resolution 55/69 of 4 December 2000 on the improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system,

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2001/50 of 24 April 2001 on integrating the human rights of women throughout the United Nations system,[91] in particular paragraph 13, in which the Commission recognizes that gender mainstreaming will strongly benefit from the enhanced and full participation of women, including at the higher levels of decision-making in the United Nations system,

Welcoming the decision of the Secretary-General to include, in the performance appraisal of managers, information on the opportunities presented for the selection of women candidates and on progress made in improving women's representation, including efforts made to identify women candidates,

Welcoming also the proposed system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women, 2002–2005, as recommended to the Economic and Social Council by the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-fifth session,[92]

Taking into account the continuing lack of representation or underrepresentation of women from certain countries, in particular from developing countries, including least developed countries and small island developing States, and from countries with economies in transition,

Noting with appreciation those departments and offices that have achieved the goal of gender balance, as well as those departments that have met or exceeded the goal of 50 per cent in the selection of women candidates for vacant posts in the past year,

Welcoming the progress made in maintaining and improving the representation of women at some levels of the Secretariat, in particular in the category of geographical appointments, and welcoming the fact that the percentage of women appointed and promoted in the Secretariat has been maintained or increased, but expressing concern that progress in improving the representation of women at the senior and policy-making levels has been negligible,

Expressing concern that there are currently no women acting as special representatives or envoys,

Noting that the statistics on the representation of women in the organizations of the United Nations system are not fully up to date,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General[93] and the actions described therein;

2. *Reaffirms* the urgent goal of achieving 50/50 gender distribution in all categories of posts within the United Nations system, especially at senior and policy-making levels, with full respect for the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in conformity with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations, and also taking into account the continuing lack of representation or underrepresentation of women from certain countries, in particular from developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

3. *Welcomes*:

(*a*) The ongoing personal commitment of the Secretary-General to meeting the goal of gender equality and his assurance that gender balance will be given the highest priority in his continuing efforts to bring about a new management culture in the Organization, including full implementation of the special measures for the achievement of gender equality;[94]

(*b*) The pledge of the executive heads of the organizations of the United Nations system to intensify their efforts to meet the gender equality goals set out in the Beijing Declaration[95] and Platform for Action;[89]

(*c*) The inclusion of the objective of improving gender balance in action plans on human resources management for individual departments and offices, and encourages further cooperation, including the sharing of best-practice initiatives, between heads of departments and offices, the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women and the Office of Human Resources Management of the Secretariat in the implementation of those plans, which include specific targets and strategies for improving the representation of women in individual departments;

(*d*) The continuing designation of focal points for women in United Nations peacekeeping operations, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the focal points are designated at a sufficiently high level and enjoy full access to senior management in the mission area and at Headquarters;

(*e*) The continued provision of specific training programmes on gender mainstreaming and gender issues in the workplace, tailored to meet the special needs of individual departments, commends those heads of departments and offices who have launched gender training for their managers and staff, and strongly encourages those who have not yet organized such training to do so by the end of the biennium;

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[90] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

[91] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[92] Ibid., *Supplement No. 7* (E/2001/27), chap. I, sect. B, resolution 45/3.

[93] A/56/472.

[94] ST/AI/1999/9.

[95] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

4. *Regrets* that the goal of 50/50 gender distribution was not met by the end of 2000, and urges the Secretary-General to redouble his efforts to realize significant progress towards this goal in the near future;

5. *Expresses concern* that, in five departments and offices of the Secretariat, women still account for less than 30 per cent of staff, and encourages the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts to meet the goal of gender balance within all departments and offices of the Secretariat;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in order to achieve and maintain the goal of 50/50 gender distribution with full respect for the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in conformity with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter:

(*a*) To develop innovative recruitment strategies to identify and attract suitably qualified women candidates, particularly from and in developing countries and countries with economies in transition and other Member States that are unrepresented or underrepresented in the Secretariat, and in occupations in which women are underrepresented;

(*b*) To encourage the United Nations system and its agencies and departments to make more effective use of existing information technology resources and systems and other established methods to disseminate information about employment opportunities for women and to better coordinate rosters of potential women candidates;

(*c*) To continue to monitor closely the progress made by departments and offices in meeting the goal of gender balance, to ensure that the appointment and promotion of suitably qualified women will be no less than 50 per cent of all appointments and promotions until the goal of 50/50 gender distribution is met, including through full implementation of the special measures for women, and to effectively encourage, monitor and assess the performance of managers in meeting targets for improving women's representation;

(*d*) To enable the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women to monitor effectively and facilitate progress in the implementation of the strategic action plans for the achievement of gender balance and the special measures for women, including by ensuring access to the information required to carry out that work;

(*e*) To intensify his efforts to create, within existing resources, a gender-sensitive work environment supportive of the needs of his staff, both women and men, including through the development of policies for flexible working time, flexible workplace arrangements and childcare and elder-care needs, as well as through the provision of more comprehensive information to prospective candidates and new recruits on employment opportunities for spouses, the provision of support for the activities of women's networks and organizations within the United Nations system and the expansion of gender-sensitivity training in all departments, offices and duty stations;

(*f*) To strengthen further the policy against harassment, including sexual harassment, by, inter alia, ensuring the full implementation of the guidelines for its application at Headquarters and in the field, including in peacekeeping operations;

7. *Strongly encourages* the Secretary-General to renew his efforts to appoint more women as special representatives and envoys to pursue good offices on his behalf, especially in matters related to peacekeeping, peace-building, preventive diplomacy and economic and social development, as well as in operational activities, including appointment as resident coordinators, and to appoint more women to other high-level positions;

8. *Encourages* the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the organizations of the United Nations system to continue to develop common approaches for retaining women, promoting inter-agency mobility and improving career development opportunities;

9. *Encourages* the United Nations and Member States to continue to implement the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century" pertaining to the improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system;[90]

10. *Strongly encourages* Member States:

(*a*) To support the efforts of the United Nations and the specialized agencies to achieve the goal of 50/50 gender distribution, especially at senior and policy-making levels, by identifying and regularly submitting more women candidates for appointment to positions in the United Nations system, by identifying and proposing national recruitment sources that will assist the organizations of the United Nations system in identifying suitable women candidates, in particular from developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and by encouraging more women to apply for positions within the Secretariat, the specialized agencies, funds and programmes and the regional commissions, including in areas in which women are underrepresented, such as peacekeeping, peace-building and other non-traditional areas;

(*b*) To identify women candidates for assignment to peacekeeping missions and to improve the representation of women in military and civilian police contingents;

(*c*) To identify and submit regularly more women candidates for appointment or election to intergovernmental, expert and treaty bodies;

(*d*) To identify and nominate more women candidates for appointment or election as judges or other senior officials in international courts and tribunals;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the present resolution, including by providing up-to-date statistics on the number and percentage of women in all organizational units and at all levels throughout the United Nations system, and on the implementation of departmental action plans for the achievement of gender balance, to the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-sixth session and to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session.

RESOLUTION 56/128

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/576, para. 36)[96]

56/128. Traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 54/133 of 17 December 1999 and its other relevant resolutions and decisions, and bearing in mind those of the Economic and Social Council, the Commission on Human Rights and the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights,

Taking note of the reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights on traditional practices affecting the health of women and the girl child[97] and of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its causes and consequences,[98]

Reaffirming the obligation of all States to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms as stated in the Charter of the United Nations, and emphasizing the obligations contained in human rights instruments, in particular articles 5 and 12 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[99] article 24 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child[100] and article 12 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[101]

Bearing in mind article 2 (*a*) of the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[102] and article 5, paragraph 5, of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,[103]

Recalling the provisions pertaining to traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls contained in the outcome of the World Conference on Human Rights,[104] the International Conference on Population and Development,[105] the Fourth World Conference on Women[106] and the twenty-first,[107] twenty-third[108] and twenty-sixth[109] special sessions of the General Assembly,

Recalling also general recommendation 14 concerning female circumcision adopted by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women at its ninth session,[110] paragraphs 11, 20 and 24 (*l*) of general recommendation 19 concerning violence against women adopted by the Committee at its eleventh session,[111] paragraphs 15 (*d*) and 18 of general recommendation 24 concerning article 12 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women on women and health adopted by the Committee at its twentieth session,[112] and taking note of paragraphs 21, 35 and 51 of general comment No. 14 (2000) concerning article 12 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights adopted by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights at its twenty-second session,[113]

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[96] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[97] E/CN.4/Sub.2/2001/27.

[98] E/CN.4/2001/73 and Add.1 and 2.

[99] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[100] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[101] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[102] See resolution 48/104.

[103] See resolution 36/55.

[104] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[105] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[106] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[107] Resolution S-21/2, annex.

[108] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[109] Resolution S-26/2, annex.

[110] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 38* and corrigendum (A/45/38 and Corr.1), chap. IV, para. 438.

[111] Ibid., *Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/47/38), chap. I.

Reaffirming that harmful traditional or customary practices, including female genital mutilation, constitute a serious threat to the health of women and girls, and may have fatal consequences,

Expressing concern at the continuing large-scale existence of these practices,

Reaffirming that such harmful traditional or customary practices constitute a definite form of violence against women and girls and a serious violation of their human rights,

Emphasizing that the elimination of harmful traditional or customary practices will contribute to reducing the vulnerability of women and girls to the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) and other sexually transmitted infections,

Stressing that the elimination of such practices requires greater efforts and commitment from Governments, the international community and civil society, including non-governmental and community-based organizations, and that fundamental changes in societal attitudes are required,

Noting with appreciation the work done in the context of the Organization of African Unity to prepare a draft protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights[114] on the rights of women in Africa,

Welcoming the call for the elimination of all harmful traditional practices which are detrimental to girls' and women's rights and health made by the Pan-African Forum on the Future of Children, held in Cairo from 28 to 31 May 2001,[115]

1. *Welcomes*:

(*a*) The report of the Secretary-General,[116] which provides encouraging examples of national and international developments;

(*b*) The efforts undertaken by United Nations bodies, programmes and organizations, including the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Population Fund, the World Health Organization, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, to address the issue of traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls, and encourages them to continue to coordinate their efforts;

(*c*) The work carried out by the Special Ambassador for the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation of the United Nations Population Fund and her continuing contribution to the campaign to eliminate female genital mutilation;

(*d*) The work carried out by the Inter-African Committee on Traditional Practices Affecting the Health of Women and Children and other non-governmental and community organizations, including women's organizations, in raising awareness of the harmful effects of such practices, in particular of female genital mutilation;

(*e*) The fact that the elimination of harmful traditional or customary practices will be considered during the special session of the General Assembly on children;

2. *Emphasizes* the need for technical and financial assistance to those developing countries working to achieve the elimination of traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls from United Nations funds and programmes, international and regional financial institutions and bilateral and multilateral donors, as well as the need for assistance to non-governmental organizations and community-based groups active in this field from the international community;

3. *Calls upon* all States:

(*a*) To ratify or accede to, if they have not yet done so, the relevant human rights treaties, in particular the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[99] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[100] to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[117] and to respect and implement fully their obligations under any such treaties to which they are parties;

(*b*) To implement the international commitments made at relevant major United Nations conferences and special sessions and summit meetings of the General Assembly held since 1990 and their follow-up processes;

(*c*) To collect and disseminate basic data about the occurrence of traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls, including female genital mutilation;

(*d*) To develop, adopt and implement national legislation, policies, plans and programmes that prohibit traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls, including female genital mutilation, and to prosecute the perpetrators of such practices;

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[112] Ibid., *Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/54/38/Rev.1), part one, chap. I, sect. A.

[113] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 2* (E/2001/22), annex IV.

[114] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1520, No. 26363.

[115] See A/S-27/4, annex, para. 32 (*g*).

[116] A/56/316.

[117] Resolution 54/4, annex.

(*e*) To establish, if they have not done so, a concrete national mechanism for the implementation and monitoring of relevant legislation, law enforcement and national policies;

(*f*) To establish or strengthen support services to respond to the needs of victims by, inter alia, developing comprehensive and accessible sexual and reproductive health services and by providing training to health-care providers at all levels on the harmful health consequences of such practices;

(*g*) To address specifically in the training of health and other relevant personnel traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls, also addressing the increased vulnerability of women and girls to HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections due to such practices;

(*h*) To take all necessary measures to empower women and strengthen their economic independence and protect and promote the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms in order to allow women and girls better to protect themselves from, inter alia, traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls;

(*i*) To intensify efforts to raise awareness of and to mobilize international and national public opinion concerning the harmful effects of traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls, including female genital mutilation, inter alia, by involving public opinion leaders, educators, religious leaders, chiefs, traditional leaders, medical practitioners, teachers, women's health and family planning organizations, social workers, childcare agencies, relevant non-governmental organizations, the arts and the media in awareness-raising campaigns, in order to achieve the total elimination of those practices;

(*j*) To address traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls in education curricula, as appropriate;

(*k*) To promote men's understanding of their roles and responsibilities with regard to promoting the elimination of harmful practices, such as female genital mutilation;

(*l*) To continue to take specific measures to increase the capacity of communities, including immigrant and refugee communities, in which female genital mutilation is practised, to engage in activities aimed at preventing and eliminating such practices;

(*m*) To explore, through consultations with communities and religious and cultural groups and their leaders, alternatives to harmful traditional or customary practices, in particular where those practices form part of a ritual ceremony or rite of passage, as well as through alternative training and education possibilities for traditional practitioners;

(*n*) To cooperate closely with the Special Rapporteur of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights on traditional practices affecting the health of women and the girl child, in particular by supplying all necessary information requested by her and by giving serious consideration to inviting her to visit their countries;

(*o*) To cooperate closely with relevant specialized agencies and United Nations funds and programmes, as well as with regional intergovernmental organizations, as appropriate, and relevant community and non-governmental organizations, including women's organizations, in a joint effort to eradicate traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls;

(*p*) To include in their reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, the Committee on the Rights of the Child and other relevant treaty bodies specific information on measures taken to eliminate traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls, including female genital mutilation, and to prosecute the perpetrators of such practices;

4. *Invites*:

(*a*) Relevant specialized agencies, United Nations bodies, regional intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to exchange information on the subject of the present resolution, and encourages the exchange of such information between non-governmental organizations active in this field and the bodies monitoring the implementation of relevant human rights treaties;

(*b*) The Commission on the Status of Women to address this subject at its forty-seventh session under the priority theme "Women's human rights and elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls as defined in the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly";

(*c*) Governments, organizations and individuals that are in a position to do so to contribute to the trust fund that supports the work of the Special Ambassador for the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation of the United Nations Population Fund;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To continue to make his report available to relevant meetings within the United Nations system;

(*b*) To report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution, with a special focus on recent national and international developments, including examples of national best practices and international cooperation.

RESOLUTION 56/129

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/576, para. 36)[118]

56/129. Improvement of the situation of women in rural areas

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 54/135 of 17 December 1999,

Recalling also the importance attached to the problems of rural women by the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,[119] the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[120] and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[121]

Welcoming the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", namely, the political declaration[122] and further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[123]

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration of 8 September 2000,[124] in which Member States resolved, inter alia, to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women as effective ways to combat poverty, hunger and disease and to stimulate development that is truly sustainable,

Recognizing the critical role and contribution of rural women in enhancing agricultural and rural development, improving food security and eradicating rural poverty,

Noting that some effects of globalization may deepen the socio-economic marginalization of rural women,

Noting also that the globalization process has had some benefits by providing opportunities for wage employment for rural women in new sectors,

Mindful of the fact that the available data and existing tools of measurement and analysis are insufficient for a full understanding of the gender implications of the processes of globalization and rural change, and their impact on rural women,

Recognizing the urgent need to take appropriate measures aimed at further improving the situation of women in rural areas,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[125]

2. *Welcomes* the holding, from 4 to 8 June 2001 at Ulaanbaatar, of the expert group meeting on the situation of rural women within the context of globalization;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a user-friendly publication based, inter alia, on case studies presented at the expert group meeting referred to in paragraph 2 above in order to raise awareness of the situation of rural women in the context of globalization;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the desirability of convening a high-level policy consultation at the governmental level with a view to setting priorities and developing critical strategies that would meet the manifold challenges faced by rural women;

5. *Welcomes* the convening of the World Summit on Sustainable Development in South Africa in September 2002, including the review of chapter 24 of Agenda 21,[126] entitled "Global action for women towards sustainable and equitable development", entailing, inter alia, measures to improve the situation of women in rural areas, and the World Food Summit: five years later, to be held in Italy in June 2002, and urges Governments to integrate a gender perspective, with attention to the improvement of the situation of women in rural areas, in the respective processes and outcome documents;

6. *Invites* Member States, in collaboration with the organizations of the United Nations and civil society, as appropriate, to continue their efforts to implement the outcome of and to ensure an integrated and coordinated follow-up to United Nations conferences and summits, including their five-year reviews, and to attach greater importance to the improvement of the situation of rural women in their national, regional and global development strategies by, inter alia:

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[118] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gambia, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Panama, Philippines, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[119] *Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15–26 July 1985* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

[120] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[121] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[122] Resolution S-23/2, annex.

[123] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

[124] See resolution 55/2.

[125] A/56/268.

[126] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

(*a*) Creating an enabling environment for improving the situation of rural women, including integrating a gender perspective in macroeconomic policies and developing appropriate social support systems;

(*b*) Designing and revising laws to ensure that, where private ownership of land and property exists, rural women are accorded full and equal rights to own land and other property, including through the right to inheritance, and undertaking administrative reforms and other necessary measures to give women the same right as men to credit, capital, appropriate technologies and access to markets and information;

(*c*) Taking steps towards ensuring that women's unpaid work and contributions to on-farm and off-farm production, including income generated in the informal sector, are visible, and assessing the feasibility of developing and improving mechanisms, such as time-use studies, to measure in quantitative terms unpaid work, recognizing the potential for it to be reflected in the formulation and implementation of policies and programmes at the national and regional levels;

(*d*) Investing in and strengthening efforts to meet the basic needs of rural women through capacity-building and human resources development measures and the provision of a safe and reliable water supply, health services, including family planning services, and nutritional programmes as well as education and literacy programmes and social support measures;

(*e*) Pursuing the political and socio-economic empowerment of rural women by supporting their full and equal participation in decision-making at all levels, including in rural institutions through, inter alia, the provision of training and capacity-building programmes, including legal literacy;

(*f*) Promoting programmes to enable rural women and men to reconcile their work and family responsibilities and to encourage men to share equally with women household and childcare responsibilities;

(*g*) Integrating a gender perspective into the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of development policies and programmes with an emphasis on reducing the disproportionate number of rural women living in poverty;

(*h*) Designing and implementing policies that promote and protect the enjoyment by women of all human rights and fundamental freedoms and creating an environment that does not tolerate violations of the rights of women and girls;

(*i*) Developing specific assistance programmes and advisory services to promote economic skills of rural women in banking, modern trading and financial procedures and providing microcredit and other financial and business services to a greater number of women in rural areas for their economic empowerment;

7. *Invites* the Commission on the Status of Women to pay due attention to the situation of rural women in the consideration of the priority themes identified in its multi-year programme of work for the period 2002–2006;

8. *Invites* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system dealing with issues of development to address and support the empowerment of rural women and their specific needs in their programmes and strategies, including in the context of globalization;

9. *Stresses* the need to identify the best practices for ensuring that rural women have access to and full participation in the area of information and communications technologies, inter alia, through specific studies, and invites the International Telecommunication Union to consider this matter in connection with the preparations for the World Summit on the Information Society;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/130

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/576, para. 36)[127]

56/130. United Nations Development Fund for Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 39/125 of 14 December 1984, in which it established the United Nations Development Fund for Women as a separate and identifiable entity in autonomous association with the United Nations Development Programme, as well as its resolutions 52/94 of 12 December 1997 and 54/136 of 17 December 1999,

Recalling also the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women,[128] which recognizes the special role of the Fund in the promotion of the empowerment of women and calls upon the Fund to review and strengthen its work programme in the light of the Platform for Action, focusing on the political and economic empowerment of women,

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[127] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia.

[128] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

Welcoming the contributions that the Fund has made in supporting initiatives of Member States, United Nations organizations and non-governmental organizations to formulate and implement activities that promote gender equality and the empowerment of women, concentrating on three thematic areas, namely, strengthening women's economic capacity, engendering governance and leadership and promoting women's human rights and the elimination of all forms of violence against women,

Recalling and reaffirming the commitments made at United Nations world conferences and summit meetings and special sessions of the General Assembly held since 1990 and their follow-up processes,

Noting the importance of the work of the Consultative Committee on the United Nations Development Fund for Women in policy and programme directions, as stipulated in the annex to resolution 39/125,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the note by the Secretary-General on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women;[129]

2. *Encourages* the Fund to continue to assist, in its areas of expertise, in the implementation of commitments made at the Fourth World Conference on Women and at the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century";

3. *Commends* the focus by the Fund on strategic programmes in its three thematic areas and on supporting innovative and experimental activities in implementing its strategy and business plan (2000–2003)[130] within the context of the Beijing Platform for Action[128] and the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly;[131]

4. *Notes with appreciation* the increased synergy between the United Nations Development Fund for Women and other funds, programmes and organizations of the United Nations system, as well as the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women and the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Secretariat, and calls upon these entities to continue their collaborative efforts;

5. *Notes* the ability of the Fund to execute projects and programmes on behalf of the United Nations Development Programme in order to fulfil their respective mandates as well as their individual and common purposes;

6. *Also notes* the activities undertaken by the Fund in follow-up to General Assembly resolution 54/136, including activities relating to the impact of armed conflict on women and the role of women in peace-building, and the support it provides for the participation of women in peace processes, and in this regard encourages the Fund to continue to consult with Member States on these activities;

7. *Emphasizes* the importance of the Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women and its learning component in extracting and sharing good practices with respect to the elimination of violence against women, and reiterates the call to Governments, non-governmental organizations and the public and private sectors to consider contributing or increasing contributions to the Trust Fund;

8. *Encourages* the Fund to continue to contribute to ensuring that a gender perspective is integrated into a comprehensive approach to the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) at all levels of the three thematic areas of the Fund, in particular in the follow-up to the special session of the General Assembly on HIV/AIDS, building on its partnerships within the United Nations system, in particular with the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS;

9. *Also encourages* the Fund to support the development or strengthening of mechanisms to increase accountability for gender equality, at the request of countries, including by building the capacity of Governments to undertake gender-responsive budget analysis;

10. *Urges* the Fund to continue its efforts to mainstream a gender perspective in United Nations operational activities, including through the resident coordinator system and the common country assessment and United Nations Development Assistance Framework processes;

11. *Welcomes* the role of the Fund in promoting the strategic importance of the empowerment of women in all of the regions in which it operates, and notes with appreciation the enhanced programme activities of the Fund in the African region;

12. *Encourages* the Fund to continue to assist Governments in implementing the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[132] in order to advance gender equality at all levels, including by reinforcing the cooperation between Governments and civil society, especially women's organizations;

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[129] A/56/174.

[130] DP/2000/15 and Add.1.

[131] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

[132] Resolution 34/180, annex.

13. *Recognizes* that the Fund has been able to secure increased contributions for its work, and expresses its appreciation to Member States and private organizations and foundations, whose increased contributions demonstrate their commitment to the issues on which the Fund is working;

14. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work of the national committees for the Fund, and encourages them, with appropriate support from the Fund, to increase their capacity and intensify their outreach to civil society and the private sector in terms of building broad-based visibility and mobilizing resources for the work of the Fund;

15. *Urges* Member States, non-governmental organizations and members of the private sector that have contributed to the Fund to continue to contribute and to consider increasing their financial contributions, and urges others to consider contributing to the Fund.

RESOLUTION 56/131

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/576, para. 36)[133]

56/131. Violence against women migrant workers

The General Assembly,

Recalling all of its previous resolutions on violence against women migrant workers and those adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[134]

Reaffirming the outcome of the World Conference on Human Rights,[135] the International Conference on Population and Development,[136] the Fourth World Conference on Women[137] and the World Summit for Social Development[138] and their five-year reviews, specifically as the results pertain to women migrant workers,

Noting the various activities initiated by entities in the United Nations system, such as the expert group meeting organized by the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and the International Organization for Migration, held at Geneva in August 1999, the international workshop on best practices concerning migrant workers and their families initiated by the International Organization for Migration, held at Santiago in June 2000, and the seminar on women immigrants organized by the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the Argentine National Institute against Discrimination, Xenophobia and Racism, held at Buenos Aires in July 2001, as well as other activities that continue to assess and alleviate the plight of women migrant workers,

Emphasizing the need for objective, comprehensive, broad-based information, possibly including a database for research and analysis, and a wide exchange of experience and lessons learned by individual Member States and civil society in the formulation of policies and concrete strategies to address the problem of violence against women migrant workers,

Encouraging the continuing participation of civil society in developing and implementing appropriate measures to support innovative partnerships among public agencies, non-governmental organizations and other members of civil society for combating violence against women migrant workers,

Noting the large numbers of women from developing countries and some countries with economies in transition who continue to venture forth to more affluent countries in search of a living for themselves and their families as a consequence of poverty, unemployment and other socio-economic conditions, and acknowledging the duty of the countries of origin to try to create conditions that provide employment and economic security for their citizens,

Expressing deep concern at the continuing reports of grave abuses and acts of violence committed against women migrant workers,

Realizing that the movement of a significant number of women migrant workers may be facilitated and made possible by means of fraudulent or irregular documentation and sham marriages with the object of migration, that this may be facilitated through, among others, the Internet, and that these women migrant workers are more vulnerable to abuse and exploitation,

Acknowledging the economic benefits that accrue to both the country of origin and the country of destination from the employment of women migrant workers,

Recognizing the importance of joint and collaborative approaches and strategies at the bilateral, regional, interregional and international levels in protecting and promoting the rights and welfare of women migrant workers,

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[133] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Haiti, Indonesia, Israel, Madagascar, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Suriname, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and United Republic of Tanzania.

[134] See resolution 48/104.

[135] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[136] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[137] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[138] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

Recognizing also the importance of exploring the link between migration and trafficking,

Encouraged by some measures adopted by some countries of destination to alleviate the plight of women migrant workers residing in their areas of jurisdiction,

Underlining the important role of relevant United Nations treaty bodies in monitoring the implementation of human rights conventions and the relevant special procedures, within their respective mandates, in addressing the problem of violence against women migrant workers and in protecting and promoting their rights and welfare,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[139]

2. *Also takes note* of the reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the human rights of migrants[140] and of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its causes and consequences,[141] with regard to violence against women migrant workers, and encourages them to continue to address the issue of violence against women migrant workers and their human rights, in particular the problem of gender-based violence and of discrimination, and trafficking in women;

3. *Requests* all Governments to continue to cooperate fully with both Special Rapporteurs in the performance of their tasks and mandated duties and to furnish all information requested, including by reacting promptly to the urgent appeals of the Special Rapporteurs;

4. *Encourages* Governments, in particular those of the countries of origin and destination, to make available to the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants information on violence against women migrant workers, with a view to requesting the Special Rapporteur to recommend concrete measures and actions to address the problem;

5. *Also encourages* Governments to give serious consideration to inviting the Special Rapporteur to visit their countries so as to enable her to fulfil the mandate effectively;

6. *Urges* concerned Governments, in particular those of the countries of origin and destination, to strengthen further their national efforts to protect and promote the rights and welfare of women migrant workers, including through sustained bilateral, regional, interregional and international cooperation, by developing strategies and joint action and taking into account the innovative approaches and experiences of individual Member States, and to establish and maintain continuing dialogues to facilitate the exchange of information;

7. *Also urges* concerned Governments, in particular those of the countries of origin and destination, to support and allocate appropriate resources for programmes aimed at strengthening preventive action, in particular information for target groups, education and campaigns to increase public awareness of this issue at the national and grass-roots levels, in cooperation with non-governmental organizations;

8. *Notes with appreciation* the adoption by Member States, including countries of origin, transit and destination, of measures to inform women migrant workers of their rights and the benefits to which they are entitled, and encourages other Member States to adopt appropriate measures in this regard;

9. *Calls upon* concerned Governments, in particular those of the countries of origin and destination, if they have not done so, to put in place penal and criminal sanctions to punish perpetrators of violence against women migrant workers and, to the extent possible, to provide, and to encourage non-governmental organizations to provide, victims of violence with the full range of immediate assistance and protection, such as counselling, legal and consular assistance, temporary shelter and other measures that will allow them to be present during the judicial process, as well as to establish reintegration and rehabilitation schemes for returning women migrant workers to their countries of origin;

10. *Encourages* concerned Governments, in particular those of the countries of origin and destination, to support and, if they have not done so, to formulate and implement training programmes for their law enforcers, prosecutors and service providers with a view to instilling among those public sector workers the necessary skills and attitude to ensure the delivery of proper and professional interventions for women migrant workers who are subjected to abuse and violence;

11. *Also encourages* concerned Governments, in particular those of the countries of origin and destination, to adopt measures or strengthen existing ones to regulate the recruitment and deployment of women migrant workers, and to consider the adoption of appropriate legal measures against intermediaries who deliberately encourage the clandestine movement of workers and who exploit women migrant workers;

12. *Invites* Governments to identify the causes of undocumented migration and its economic, social and demographic impact, as well as its implications for the formulation and application of social, economic and migration policies, including those relating to women migrant workers;

13. *Encourages* concerned Governments, in particular those of the countries of origin, transit and destination, to avail themselves of the expertise of the United Nations, including the Statistics Division of the Secretariat and other relevant bodies, such as the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, to develop appropriate national data-collection methodologies that will generate comparable data on violence against women migrant workers as bases for research and analyses of the subject;

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[139] A/56/329.

[140] E/CN.4/2001/83 and Add.1.

[141] E/CN.4/2001/73 and Add.1 and 2.

14. *Encourages* Member States to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to relevant International Labour Organization conventions and to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[142] as well as the Slavery Convention of 1926;[143]

15. *Welcomes* the adoption by the General Assembly of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children[144] and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air,[145] supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[146] and encourages Governments to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Protocols;

16. *Encourages* the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to consider developing a general recommendation on the situation of women migrant workers;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the problem of violence against women migrant workers and on the implementation of the present resolution, taking into account updated information from the organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, as well as the International Organization for Migration and other relevant sources, including non-governmental organizations.

RESOLUTION 56/132

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/577, para. 10)[147]

56/132. Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/203 of 22 December 1995, 51/69 of 12 December 1996, 52/100 of 12 December 1997, 53/120 of 9 December 1998, 54/141 of 17 December 1999 and 55/71 of 4 December 2000,

Welcoming the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[148] and stressing the importance of the outcome of the special session, which has assessed the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[149] identified obstacles and challenges thereto and proposed actions and initiatives to overcome them and achieve full and accelerated implementation,

Deeply convinced that the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session are important contributions to the advancement of women worldwide in the achievement of gender equality and must be translated into effective action by all States, the United Nations system and other organizations concerned, as well as by non-governmental organizations,

Stressing the importance of strong, sustained political will and commitment at the national, regional and international levels in order to achieve full and accelerated implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session,

Recognizing that the responsibility for the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session rests primarily at the national level and that strengthened efforts are necessary in this respect, and reiterating that enhanced international cooperation is essential for the effective implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session,

Welcoming the increased integration of a gender perspective in the work of the United Nations, in particular in the outcomes of major United Nations conferences, special sessions, summit conferences and their follow-up processes,

Welcoming also the integration of a gender perspective in the outcome of the twenty-sixth special session of the General Assembly, on the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS), held in New York from 25 to 27 June 2001,[150] in particular the emphasis on the gender dimensions of the epidemic, and the recognition that gender equality and the empowerment of women are fundamental elements in the reduction of the vulnerability of women and girls, who are disproportionately affected by HIV/AIDS,

Welcoming further the integration of a gender perspective in the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held at Durban, South

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[142] Resolution 45/158, annex.

[143] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 212, No. 2861.

[144] Resolution 55/25, annex II.

[145] Ibid., annex III.

[146] Ibid., annex I.

[147] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[148] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[149] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[150] Resolution S-26/2, annex.

Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001, which recognized, inter alia, the multiple forms of discrimination faced by women and the need to apply a gender perspective in measures to eradicate racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

Emphasizing the importance of the decision by the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 2001/41 of 26 July 2001, to devote the coordination segment of one of its substantive sessions, before 2005, to the review and appraisal of the system-wide implementation of agreed conclusions 1997/2 on mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system, adopted by the Council on 18 July 1997,[151]

Welcoming the ministerial declaration on the role of the United Nations system in support of the efforts of African countries to achieve sustainable development, adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 18 July 2001 at the high-level segment of its substantive session of 2001,[152] in which the Council recognized, inter alia, the need to promote the role of women in social and economic development, including by assuring their participation in political and economic life,

Reaffirming the primary and essential role of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council in promoting the advancement of women and gender equality, while noting the importance of the open debate entitled "Women and peace and security", held in the Security Council on 24 October 2000, and its outcome,

Welcoming the adoption of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[153] and the Protocols thereto,[154]

1. *Reaffirms* the goals, objectives and commitments contained in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[149] and also in the political declaration and further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-third special session;[148]

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to and progress made in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly;[155]

3. *Calls upon* Governments, the relevant entities of the United Nations system within their respective mandates and all other relevant actors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to take effective action to achieve full and effective implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, as elaborated in the above-mentioned documents;

4. *Calls upon* Governments, in collaboration with relevant actors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to continue to facilitate the translation and dissemination of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session as broadly and as accessibly as possible;

5. *Strongly encourages* Governments to continue to support the role and contribution of civil society, in particular non-governmental organizations and women's organizations, in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session;

6. *Welcomes* the integration of a gender perspective in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[156] and emphasizes the importance of mainstreaming a gender perspective in the implementation of and follow-up to the Millennium Declaration and in future reports on this subject;

7. *Reaffirms* its decision that the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on the Status of Women, in accordance with their respective mandates and with General Assembly resolution 48/162 of 20 December 1993 and other relevant resolutions, constitute a three-tiered intergovernmental mechanism that plays the primary role in the overall policy-making and follow-up and in coordinating the implementation and monitoring of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session;

8. *Also reaffirms* that the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and the twenty-third special session will be undertaken within the framework of an integrated and coordinated follow-up to major international conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, and in this regard takes note of Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/21 of 26 July 2001 on integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits;

9. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to intensify further its efforts to ensure that gender mainstreaming is an integral part of all United Nations activities, building upon agreed conclusions 1997/2 adopted by the Council on 18 July 1997;[151]

10. *Invites* the Council to continue to further policy coordination and inter-agency cooperation towards the

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[151] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/52/3/Rev.1), chap. IV, para. 4.

[152] See A/56/3, chap. III, para. 29. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 3.*

[153] Resolution 55/25, annex I.

[154] Ibid., annexes II and III, and resolution 55/255, annex.

[155] A/56/319 and Add.1.

[156] See resolution 55/2.

achievement of the objectives of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, including by considering the dedication of specific segments of the Council to the advancement of women and implementation of the above-mentioned documents and by mainstreaming a gender perspective in all its work;

11. *Encourages* the Council to request the regional commissions, within their respective mandates and resources, to intensify efforts to build up a database, to be updated regularly, in which all programmes and projects carried out in their respective regions by agencies or organizations of the United Nations system are listed, and to facilitate their dissemination, as well as the evaluation of their impact on the empowerment of women through the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action;

12. *Reaffirms* that the Commission on the Status of Women has a central role in assisting the Council in monitoring, assessing progress made in and accelerating, within the United Nations system, the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, and in advising the Council thereon, encourages the Commission, in this regard, further to enhance its working methods in order to improve the effectiveness of its work and its catalytic role in ensuring the integration of a gender perspective in United Nations activities, taking into consideration the adoption by the Council of the multi-year programme of work of the Commission for 2002–2006,[157] and calls on the Commission and all involved to implement the programme of work;

13. *Recognizes* the importance attached to the regional and subregional monitoring of the global and regional platforms for action and of the implementation of the outcome of the twenty-third special session by regional commissions and other regional or subregional structures, within their mandates, in consultation with Governments, and calls for the promotion of further cooperation in that respect among Governments and, where appropriate, national machineries of the same region;

14. *Reaffirms* that, in order to implement the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, adequate mobilization of resources at the national and international levels, as well as new and additional resources for the developing countries, in particular those in Africa and the least developed countries, from all available funding mechanisms, including multilateral, bilateral and private sources, will also be required;

15. *Recognizes* that the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session in the countries with economies in transition requires continued national efforts and international cooperation and assistance;

16. *Reaffirms* that, in order to implement the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, a reformulation of policies and reallocation of resources may be needed, but that some policy changes may not necessarily have financial implications;

17. *Recognizes* that the creation of an enabling environment at the national and international levels, including through the full participation of women at all levels of decision-making, is necessary to ensure the full participation of women in economic activities, and calls upon States to remove obstacles to the full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session;

18. *Reaffirms* that, in order to ensure the effective implementation of the strategic objectives of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, the United Nations system should promote an active and visible policy of mainstreaming a gender perspective, including through the work of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women and the maintenance of gender units and focal points;

19. *Also reaffirms* that United Nations bodies that focus on gender issues, such as the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, have an important role to play in the implementation of the objectives of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session;

20. *Welcomes* the convening, in 2002, of the International Conference on Financing for Development, to be held at Monterrey, Mexico, the World Summit on Sustainable Development, to be held at Johannesburg, South Africa, the Second World Assembly on Ageing, to be held at Madrid, and the special session of the General Assembly on children, and urges Governments to integrate a gender perspective in the respective processes and outcome documents;

21. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts made by all relevant organizations of the United Nations system in promoting the role of women in conflict prevention and resolution;

22. *Recognizes* the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peace-building, the importance of their equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security and the need to increase their role in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution, and urges the United Nations system and Governments to make further efforts in this regard and to take steps to ensure and support the full participation of women at all levels of decision-making and implementation in development activities and peace processes, including conflict prevention and resolution, post-conflict

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[157] See Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/4.

reconstruction, peacemaking, peacekeeping and peace-building, as well as through the integration of a gender perspective into those United Nations processes;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all United Nations personnel and officials at Headquarters and in the field, especially in field operations, receive training so that they mainstream a gender perspective in their work, including gender impact analysis, and to ensure appropriate follow-up to such training;

24. *Requests* all bodies that deal with programme and budgetary matters, including the Committee for Programme and Coordination, to ensure that all programmes, medium-term plans and programme budgets visibly mainstream a gender perspective;

25. *Invites* States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[158] to include information on measures taken to implement the outcome of the twenty-third special session, as well as the Beijing Platform for Action, in their reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women under article 18 of the Convention;

26. *Welcomes* the entry into force of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[159] and urges States parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to the Optional Protocol;

27. *Urges* Member States to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[153] and the Protocols thereto,[154] in particular the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children;

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to disseminate the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session as widely as possible in all the official languages of the United Nations;

29. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report annually to the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on the Status of Women on follow-up to and progress in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, with an assessment of progress made in mainstreaming a gender perspective within the United Nations system, including by providing information on key achievements, lessons learned and best practices, and to recommend further measures and strategies for future action within the United Nations system;

30. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled 'Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century' ".

RESOLUTION 56/133

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/578, para. 18)[160]

56/133. Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The General Assembly,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council decisions 2001/217 of 3 May 2001 and 2001/298 of 25 July 2001 concerning the enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,

Taking note also of the requests regarding the enlargement of the Executive Committee contained in the annex to the note verbale dated 21 January 1999 from the Permanent Mission of Guinea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General,[161] in the letter dated 3 November 2000 from the Permanent Representative of New Zealand to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General,[162] in the annex to the letter dated 20 April 2001 from the Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General[163] and in the note verbale dated 27 April 2001 from the Permanent Mission of Ecuador to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General,[164]

1. *Decides* to increase the number of members of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees from fifty-seven to sixty-one States;

2. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to elect the additional members at its resumed organizational session for 2002.

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[158] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[159] Resolution 54/4, annex.

[160] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Guinea, Mozambique, Namibia, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Panama, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Suriname and Yugoslavia.

[161] E/1999/13.

[162] E/2001/4.

[163] E/2001/49.

[164] E/2001/52.

RESOLUTION 56/134

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/578, para. 18)[165]

56/134. Follow-up to the Regional Conference to Address the Problems of Refugees, Displaced Persons, Other Forms of Involuntary Displacement and Returnees in the Countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and Relevant Neighbouring States

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/113 of 20 December 1993, 49/173 of 23 December 1994, 50/151 of 21 December 1995, 51/70 of 12 December 1996, 52/102 of 12 December 1997, 53/123 of 9 December 1998 and, in particular, 54/144 of 17 December 1999,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[166]

Having considered the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,[167]

Reaffirming the importance and continuing validity of the Programme of Action, adopted in 1996 by the Regional Conference to Address the Problems of Refugees, Displaced Persons, Other Forms of Involuntary Displacement and Returnees in the Countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and Relevant Neighbouring States,[168] as a basic guiding tool for future activities,

Recognizing the ongoing acuteness of the migration and displacement problems in the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and the necessity to follow up the Conference,

Recalling the decision of the Steering Group of the Conference at its fifth meeting to continue activities in the process entitled "Follow-up to the 1996 Geneva Conference on the Problems of Refugees, Displaced Persons, Migration and Asylum Issues" for a period of five years,

Welcoming the Work Plan for the Thematic Issues, prepared jointly by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Organization for Migration, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Council of Europe in accordance with the recommendations adopted by the Steering Group at its fifth meeting,

Welcoming also the convening, at Kiev from 11 to 13 December 2000, of the first meeting of experts within the framework of the newly launched thematic process on citizenship and statelessness, as well as international efforts aimed at improving migration and border management, with due respect to refugee protection matters, and encouraging all lead agencies to continue to implement the Work Plan,

Reaffirming the view of the Conference that the primary responsibility for tackling population displacement problems lies with the affected countries themselves and that these issues are to be regarded as national priorities, while at the same time recognizing the need for enhancing international support for the national efforts of the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States aimed at the effective implementation of such responsibilities within the framework of the Programme of Action adopted by the Conference,

Noting with satisfaction the efforts of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Organization for Migration and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in developing strategies and practical tools for more effective capacity-building in countries of origin and enhancing programmes to address the needs of various categories of concern to the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States,

Taking note of positive results emanating from the implementation of the Programme of Action,

Convinced of the necessity of further strengthening practical measures and of continuing to maintain the regional approach for the achievement of effective implementation of the Programme of Action,

Recalling that the protection and promotion of human rights and the strengthening of democratic institutions are essential to prevent mass population displacement,

Mindful that adherence to the principles and the recommendations contained in the Programme of Action should be facilitated and can be ensured only through cooperation and coordinated activities undertaken in this respect by all interested States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other actors,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;[167]

2. *Calls upon* the Governments of the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States, in cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Organization for Migration and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, to

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[165] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[166] A/55/472.

[167] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 12* (A/56/12).

[168] A/51/341 and Corr.1, appendix.

strengthen their efforts and mutual cooperation relating to the follow-up to the Regional Conference to Address the Problems of Refugees, Displaced Persons, Other Forms of Involuntary Displacement and Returnees in the Countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and Relevant Neighbouring States, and welcomes the positive results achieved by them in the implementation of the Programme of Action adopted by the Conference;[168]

3. *Invites* all States that have not yet done so to accede to and implement fully the 1951 Convention[169] and the 1967 Protocol[170] relating to the Status of Refugees;

4. *Calls upon* States and interested international organizations, in a spirit of solidarity and burden-sharing, to provide appropriate forms and levels of support for activities undertaken in follow-up to the Programme of Action;

5. *Invites* international financial and other institutions to contribute to the financing of projects and programmes within the framework of such follow-up activities;

6. *Invites* the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States to intensify bilateral, subregional and regional cooperation in maintaining the balance of commitments and interests in such activities;

7. *Calls upon* the Governments of the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States to continue to strengthen their commitment to the principles underpinning the Programme of Action, in particular principles of human rights and refugee protection, and to lend high-level political support to ensure the implementation of activities undertaken in follow-up to the Programme of Action;

8. *Invites* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Organization for Migration to enhance their mutual relationship with other key international actors, such as the Council of Europe, the European Commission and human rights, development and financial institutions, in order better to address the wide-ranging and complex issues in activities undertaken in follow-up to the Programme of Action;

9. *Welcomes* the progress made in building civil society, in particular through the development of the non-governmental sector and the development of cooperation between non-governmental organizations and the Governments of a number of countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States, and notes in this regard the relationship between adherence to the principles of the Programme of Action and success in promoting civil society, especially in the field of human rights;

10. *Encourages* the involvement of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in the follow-up to the Conference, and invites them to demonstrate stronger support for the process of multinational constructive dialogue among a wide range of countries concerned;

11. *Emphasizes* the necessity of undertaking follow-up activities to the Programme of Action in relation to ensuring respect for human rights as an important factor in the management of migration flows, the consolidation of democracy, the rule of law and stability;

12. *Recognizes* the importance of taking measures, on the basis of strict adherence to all of the principles of international law, including humanitarian, human rights and refugee law, to prevent situations that lead to new flows of refugees, displaced persons and other forms of involuntary displacement;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the progress achieved in the implementation of activities undertaken in follow-up to the Programme of Action;

14. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question at its fifty-eighth session.

RESOLUTION 56/135

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/578, para. 18)[171]

56/135. Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/77 of 4 December 2000,

Recalling also the provisions of its resolution 2312 (XXII) of 14 December 1967, by which it adopted the Declaration on Territorial Asylum,

Recalling further the Organization of African Unity Convention governing the specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa of 1969[172] and the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights,[173]

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[169] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

[170] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

[171] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Uganda (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[172] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1001, No. 14691.

[173] Ibid., vol. 1520, No. 26363.

Recalling the Khartoum Declaration[174] and the Recommendations on Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons in Africa[175] adopted by the Organization of African Unity at the ministerial meeting held at Khartoum on 13 and 14 December 1998,

Welcoming decision CM/Dec.598 (LXXIV) on the situation of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its seventy-fourth ordinary session, held at Lusaka from 5 to 8 July 2001,[176]

Welcoming also decision AHG/Dec.165 (XXXVII) on the fiftieth anniversary of the adoption of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-seventh ordinary session, held at Lusaka from 9 to 11 July 2001,[177]

Noting that 2001 marks the fiftieth anniversary of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees,[178] which, together with the 1967 Protocol thereto,[179] as complemented by the Organization of African Unity Convention of 1969, remains the foundation of the international refugee protection regime in Africa,

Recognizing that the fundamental principles and rights embodied in those Conventions have provided a resilient protection regime within which millions of refugees have been able to find safety from armed conflicts and persecution,

Recalling the Comprehensive Implementation Plan adopted by the Special Meeting of Governmental and Non-Governmental Technical Experts convened by the Organization of African Unity and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees at Conakry from 27 to 29 March 2000 on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Organization of African Unity Convention, and noting its endorsement by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its seventy-second ordinary session,[180]

Commending the First Ministerial Conference on Human Rights in Africa of the Organization of African Unity, held at Grand-Baie, Mauritius, from 12 to 16 April 1999, and recalling the attention paid to issues relevant to refugees and displaced persons in the Declaration and Plan of Action adopted by the Conference,

Recognizing the contributions made by African States to the development of regional standards for the protection of refugees and returnees, and noting with appreciation that countries of asylum are hosting refugees in a humanitarian spirit and in a spirit of African solidarity and brotherhood,

Recognizing also the need for States to address resolutely the root causes of forced displacement and to create conditions that facilitate durable solutions for refugees and displaced persons, and stressing in this regard the need for States to foster peace, stability and prosperity throughout the African continent,

Convinced of the need to strengthen the capacity of States to provide assistance to and protection for refugees, returnees and displaced persons and of the need for the international community, within the context of burden-sharing, to increase its material, financial and technical assistance to countries affected by refugees, returnees and displaced persons,

Acknowledging with appreciation that some assistance is already rendered by the international community to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and host countries in Africa,

Noting with great concern that, despite all the efforts deployed so far by the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity and others, the situation of refugees and displaced persons in Africa remains precarious,

Stressing that the provision of relief and assistance to African refugees by the international community should be on an equitable, non-discriminatory basis,

Considering that, among refugees, returnees and internally displaced persons, women and children are the majority of the population affected by conflict and bear the brunt of atrocities and other consequences of conflict,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General[181] and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;[182]

2. *Notes with concern* that the declining socio-economic situation, compounded by political instability, internal strife, human rights violations and natural disasters, has led to increased numbers of refugees and displaced persons in some countries of Africa, and remains particularly concerned about the impact of large-scale refugee populations on the security, socio-economic situation and environment of countries of asylum;

3. *Encourages* African States to ensure the full implementation of and follow-up to the Comprehensive Implementation Plan adopted by the Special Meeting of Governmental and Non-Governmental Technical Experts convened by the Organization of African Unity and the Office of

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[174] A/54/682, annex I.

[175] Ibid., annex II.

[176] See A/56/457, annex II.

[177] Ibid., annex I.

[178] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

[179] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

[180] See A/55/286, annex I, decision CM/Dec.531 (LXXII), para. 8.

[181] A/56/335.

[182] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 12* (A/56/12).

the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees at Conakry on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Organization of African Unity Convention governing the specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa of 1969;[172]

4. *Calls upon* States and other parties to armed conflict to observe scrupulously the letter and the spirit of international humanitarian law, bearing in mind that armed conflict is one of the principal causes of forced displacement in Africa;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* for the leadership shown by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees since he assumed office in January 2001, and commends the Office of the High Commissioner for the ongoing efforts, with the support of the international community, to assist African countries of asylum and to respond to the protection and assistance needs of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa;

6. *Notes* the Ministerial Meeting of States Parties to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, to be held at Geneva on 12 and 13 December 2001, and encourages African States parties to the Convention to participate actively in the event;

7. *Welcomes* the process of the Global Consultations on International Protection launched by the Office of the High Commissioner, which provides an important forum for open discussion on complex legal and operational protection issues, and in this context invites African States to continue to participate actively in this process so as to bring their regional perspective to bear, thus ensuring that adequate attention is paid to concerns that are specific to Africa;

8. *Reaffirms* that the 1951 Convention[178] and the 1967 Protocol[179] relating to the Status of Refugees, as complemented by the Organization of African Unity Convention of 1969, remain the foundation of the international refugee protection regime in Africa, encourages African States that have not yet done so to accede to those instruments, and calls upon States parties to the Conventions to reaffirm their commitment to their ideals and to respect and observe their provisions;

9. *Notes* the need for States to address the root causes of forced displacement in Africa, and calls upon African States, the international community and relevant United Nations organizations to take concrete action to meet the needs of refugees, returnees and displaced persons for protection and assistance and to contribute generously to national projects and programmes aimed at alleviating their plight;

10. *Notes also* the link, inter alia, between human rights violations, poverty, natural disasters and environmental degradation and population displacement, and calls for redoubled and concerted efforts by States, in collaboration with the Organization of African Unity, to promote and protect human rights for all and to address these problems;

11. *Encourages* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to continue to cooperate with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, within their respective mandates, in the promotion and protection of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa;

12. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing mediation and conflict resolution efforts carried out by African States, the Organization of African Unity and subregional organizations, as well as the establishment of regional mechanisms for conflict prevention and resolution, and urges all relevant parties to address the humanitarian consequences of conflicts;

13. *Expresses its appreciation and strong support* for those African Governments and local populations that, in spite of the general deterioration of socio-economic and environmental conditions and overstretched national resources, continue to accept the additional burden imposed upon them by increasing numbers of refugees and displaced persons, in compliance with the relevant principles of asylum;

14. *Expresses its concern* about instances in which the fundamental principle of asylum is jeopardized by unlawful expulsion or refoulement or by threats to the life, physical security, integrity, dignity and well-being of refugees;

15. *Calls upon* States, in cooperation with international organizations, within their mandates, to take all necessary measures to ensure respect for the principles of refugee protection and, in particular, to ensure that the civilian and humanitarian nature of refugee camps is not compromised by the presence or the activities of armed elements;

16. *Deplores* the deaths and injuries and other forms of violence sustained by staff members of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and urges States, parties to conflict and all other relevant actors to take all necessary measures to protect activities related to humanitarian assistance, to prevent attacks on and kidnapping of national and international humanitarian workers and to ensure their safety and security, calls upon States to investigate fully any crimes committed against humanitarian personnel and bring to justice persons responsible for such crimes, and calls upon organizations and aid workers to abide by the national laws and regulations of the countries in which they operate;

17. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner, the Organization of African Unity, subregional organizations and all African States, in conjunction with organizations of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the international community, to strengthen and revitalize existing partnerships and forge new ones in support of the international refugee protection system;

18. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner, the international community and other concerned entities to intensify their support to African Governments through

appropriate capacity-building activities, including training of relevant officers, disseminating information about refugee instruments and principles, providing financial, technical and advisory services to accelerate the enactment or amendment and implementation of legislation relating to refugees, strengthening emergency response and enhancing capacities for the coordination of humanitarian activities;

19. *Reaffirms* the right of return and also the principle of voluntary repatriation, appeals to countries of origin and countries of asylum to create conditions that are conducive to voluntary repatriation, and recognizes that, while voluntary repatriation remains the pre-eminent solution, local integration and third-country resettlement, as appropriate, are also viable options for dealing with the situation of African refugees who, owing to prevailing circumstances in their respective countries of origin, are unable to return home;

20. *Notes with satisfaction* the voluntary return of millions of refugees to their homelands following the successful repatriation and reintegration operations carried out by the Office of the High Commissioner with the cooperation and collaboration of countries hosting refugees and countries of origin, and looks forward to other programmes to assist the voluntary repatriation and reintegration of all refugees in Africa;

21. *Appeals* to the international community to respond positively, in a spirit of solidarity and burden-sharing, to the third-country resettlement requests of African refugees, and notes with appreciation that some African countries have offered resettlement places for refugees;

22. *Welcomes* the programmes carried out by the Office of the High Commissioner with host Governments, the United Nations, non-governmental organizations and the international community to address the environmental impact of refugee populations;

23. *Calls upon* the international donor community to provide material and financial assistance for the implementation of programmes intended for the rehabilitation of the environment and infrastructure affected by refugees in countries of asylum;

24. *Expresses its concern* about the long stay of refugees in certain African countries, and calls upon the Office of the High Commissioner to keep its programmes under review, in conformity with its mandate in the host countries, taking into account the increasing needs of refugees;

25. *Emphasizes* the need for the Office of the High Commissioner to collate statistics, on a regular basis, on the number of refugees living outside refugee camps in certain African countries, with a view to evaluating and addressing the needs of those refugees;

26. *Urges* the international community, in a spirit of international solidarity and burden-sharing, to continue to fund generously the refugee programmes of the Office of the High Commissioner and, taking into account the substantially increased needs of programmes in Africa, to ensure that Africa receives a fair and equitable share of the resources designated for refugees;

27. *Requests* all Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to pay particular attention to meeting the special needs of refugee women and children and displaced persons, including those with special protection needs;

28. *Calls upon* States and the Office of the High Commissioner to make renewed efforts to ensure that the rights, needs and dignity of elderly refugees are fully respected and addressed through appropriate programme activities;

29. *Expresses grave concern* about the plight of internally displaced persons in Africa, calls upon States to take concrete action to pre-empt internal displacement and to meet the protection and assistance needs of internally displaced persons, recalls in this regard the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement,[183] and urges the international community, led by relevant United Nations organizations, to contribute generously to national projects and programmes aimed at alleviating the plight of internally displaced persons;

30. *Invites* the Representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons to continue his ongoing dialogue with Member States and the intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, in accordance with his mandate, and to include information thereon in his reports to the Commission on Human Rights and the General Assembly;

31. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session, taking fully into account the efforts expended by countries of asylum, under the item entitled "Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions", and to present an oral report to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2002.

RESOLUTION 56/136

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/578, para. 18)[184]

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[183] E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

[184] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Angola, Bangladesh, Benin, Botswana, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Guinea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritania, Morocco, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Qatar, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey and Yemen.

56/136. Assistance to unaccompanied refugee minors

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/172 of 23 December 1994, 50/150 of 21 December 1995, 51/73 of 12 December 1996, 52/105 of 12 December 1997, 53/122 of 9 December 1998 and 54/145 of 17 December 1999,

Aware of the fact that the majority of refugees are children and women,

Bearing in mind that unaccompanied refugee minors are among the most vulnerable refugees and the most at risk of neglect, violence, forced military recruitment and sexual assault and therefore require special assistance and care,

Mindful of the fact that the ultimate solution to the plight of unaccompanied minors is their return to and reunification with their families,

Noting the revised Guidelines on Refugee Children issued by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in May 1994 and the development of an emergency kit to facilitate coordination and enhance the quality of responses to the needs of unaccompanied minors by the Office of the High Commissioner, the United Nations Children's Fund and non-governmental organizations,

Noting with appreciation the efforts of the Office of the High Commissioner and the United Nations Children's Fund in the identification and tracing of unaccompanied minors, and welcoming their efforts in reunifying families of refugees,

Welcoming the efforts exerted by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to reunite refugees with their families,

Noting the efforts of the High Commissioner to ensure the protection of and assistance to refugees, including children and unaccompanied minors, and that further enhanced efforts need to be exerted to this effect,

Recalling the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[185] and the 1951 Convention[186] and the 1967 Protocol[187] relating to the Status of Refugees,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[188]

2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict;[189]

3. *Expresses its deep concern* at the continuing plight of unaccompanied refugee minors, and emphasizes once again the urgent need for their early identification and for timely, detailed and accurate information on their number and whereabouts;

4. *Stresses* the importance of providing adequate resources for programmes of identification and tracing of unaccompanied minors;

5. *Calls upon* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, in cooperation with other relevant United Nations bodies, to incorporate into its programmes policies that aim at preventing the separation of refugee families, conscious of the importance of family unity;

6. *Calls upon* all Governments, the Secretary-General, the Office of the High Commissioner, all United Nations organizations, other international organizations and non-governmental organizations concerned to exert the maximum effort to assist and protect refugee minors and to expedite the return and reunification with their families of unaccompanied refugee minors;

7. *Urges* the Office of the High Commissioner, all United Nations organizations, other international organizations and non-governmental organizations concerned to take appropriate steps to mobilize resources commensurate with the needs and interests of unaccompanied refugee minors and for their reunification with their families;

8. *Calls upon* all States and other parties to armed conflict to respect international humanitarian law, and in this regard calls upon States parties to respect fully the provisions of the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[190] and related instruments, bearing in mind resolution 2 adopted at the twenty-sixth International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, held at Geneva in December 1995, and to respect the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[185] which accord children affected by armed conflict special protection and treatment;

9. *Condemns* all acts of exploitation of unaccompanied refugee minors, including their use as soldiers or human shields in armed conflict and their forced recruitment into military forces, and any other acts that endanger their safety and personal security;

10. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, the United Nations Children's Fund, other United Nations organizations and other international organizations to mobilize adequate assistance to unaccompanied refugee minors in the areas of relief, education, health and psychological rehabilitation;

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[185] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[186] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

[187] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

[188] A/56/333 and Corr.1.

[189] See A/56/453.

[190] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

11. *Encourages* the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict in his efforts to raise awareness worldwide and mobilize official and public opinion for the protection of children affected by armed conflict, including refugee minors;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution and to give special attention in his report to the girl-child refugee.

RESOLUTION 56/137

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/578, para. 18)[191]

56/137. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the activities of his Office[192] and the report of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the work of its fifty-second session[193] and the conclusions and decisions contained therein,

Recalling its annual resolutions on the work of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees adopted since its establishment by the General Assembly,[194]

Expressing its appreciation for the leadership shown by the High Commissioner since he assumed office in January 2001, and commending the staff and implementing partners of the Office of the High Commissioner for the competent, courageous and dedicated manner in which they discharge their responsibilities,

1. *Endorses* the report of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the work of its fifty-second session;[193]

2. *Welcomes* the fiftieth anniversary of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees,[195] notes that the Convention and the 1967 Protocol thereto[196] have continuously served as the cornerstone of the international refugee protection regime, and welcomes in this context the convening of a ministerial meeting of States parties as an expression of their collective commitment to full and effective implementation of the Convention and Protocol and the values they embody;

3. *Reaffirms* that the 1951 Convention and the 1967 Protocol remain the foundation of the international refugee regime and recognizes the importance of their full application by States parties, notes with satisfaction that one hundred and forty-one States are now parties to one or both instruments, encourages the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and States to strengthen their efforts to promote broader accession to those instruments and their full implementation, and underlines in particular the importance of full respect for the principle of non-refoulement;

4. *Notes* that fifty-three States are now parties to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons[197] and that twenty-five States are parties to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness,[198] and encourages the High Commissioner to continue his activities on behalf of stateless persons;

5. *Welcomes* the process of Global Consultations on International Protection launched by the Office of the High Commissioner, and acknowledges their importance as a forum for open discussion on complex legal and operational protection issues;

6. *Reiterates* that international protection is a dynamic and action-oriented function, carried out in cooperation with States and other partners, inter alia, to promote and facilitate the admission, reception and treatment of refugees and to ensure durable, protection-oriented solutions, bearing in mind the particular needs of vulnerable groups;

7. *Re-emphasizes* that the protection of refugees is primarily the responsibility of States, whose full and effective cooperation, action and political resolve are required to enable

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[191] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[192] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 12* (A/56/12).

[193] Ibid., *Supplement No. 12A* (A/56/12/Add.1).

[194] Resolution 428 (V).

[195] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

[196] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

[197] Ibid., vol. 360, No. 5158.

[198] Ibid., vol. 989, No. 14458.

the Office of the High Commissioner to fulfil its mandated functions;

8. *Urges* all States and relevant non-governmental and other organizations, in conjunction with the Office of the High Commissioner, in a spirit of international solidarity and burden- and responsibility-sharing, to cooperate and to mobilize resources with a view to enhancing the capacity of States and reducing the heavy burden borne by them, in particular by developing countries and countries with economies in transition that have received large numbers of refugees and asylum-seekers, and calls upon the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to play its catalytic role in mobilizing assistance from the international community to address the root causes as well as the economic, environmental and social impact of large-scale refugee populations, especially in developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

9. *Strongly reaffirms* the fundamental importance and the purely humanitarian and non-political character of the function of the Office of the High Commissioner of providing international protection to refugees and seeking permanent solutions to refugee problems, recalls that these solutions include voluntary repatriation and, where appropriate and feasible, local integration and resettlement in a third country, reaffirming that voluntary repatriation remains the preferred solution, supported by necessary rehabilitation and development assistance, to facilitate sustainable reintegration;

10. *Emphasizes* the obligation of all States to accept the return of their nationals, calls upon all States to facilitate the return of their nationals who have been determined not to be in need of international protection, and affirms the need for the return of persons to be undertaken in a safe and humane manner and with full respect for their human rights and dignity, irrespective of the status of the persons concerned;

11. *Recognizes* that adequate and timely resources are essential to the High Commissioner to discharge effectively his mandated functions on an equitable basis, and urges Governments and other donors to respond promptly to the global appeal issued by his Office for requirements under its annual programme budget;

12. *Requests* the Office of the High Commissioner, with that sustained support, to continue to fulfil the mandate conferred upon it by its statute and by subsequent General Assembly resolutions regarding refugees and other persons of concern, in close cooperation with its relevant partners;

13. *Requests* the High Commissioner to report on his activities to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session, and to include in his report the results of the Global Consultations on International Protection.

RESOLUTION 56/138

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/579, para. 16)[199]

56/138. The rights of the child

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming all of its resolutions on the rights of the child,[200] in particular resolutions 55/78 and 55/79 of 4 December 2000, and taking note with appreciation of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2001/75 of 25 April 2001,[201]

Considering the postponement of the special session of the General Assembly on children due to exceptional circumstances,

Welcoming the progress made so far in the preparation of the special session of the General Assembly on children, including its outcome document, and reaffirming that the Assembly, at its special session, while reviewing the achievements in the implementation and results of the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children and Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s adopted by the World Summit for Children, held in New York on 29 and 30 September 1990,[202] will make a renewed commitment and consider future action for children in the forthcoming decade,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "We the children: end-decade review

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[199] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[200] Resolutions 50/153, 51/77, 52/107, 53/128 and 54/149.

[201] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[202] A/45/625, annex.

of the follow-up to the World Summit for Children"[203] and the reports of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child[204] and on children and armed conflict,[205] as well as the report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict;[206]

2. *Welcomes* the fact that, as at 18 October 2001, ten States had become parties to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,[207] thereby allowing it to enter into force on 18 January 2002, and that, as at 12 November 2001, ten States had become parties to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict,[208] thereby allowing it to enter into force on 12 February 2002;

3. *Welcomes also* the adoption of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[209] as well as the large number of ratifications of International Labour Organization Convention No. 138, concerning the Minimum Age for Admission to Employment and Convention No. 182, concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour;

4. *Welcomes* the convening of the Second World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children at Yokohama, Japan, from 17 to 20 December 2001, and the regional consultative meetings for its preparation, and invites Member States and observers to ensure their participation in the Congress at a high political level;

5. *Decides*:

(*a*) To request the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the rights of the child, containing information on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto;

(*b*) To request the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict to submit to the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights reports containing relevant information on the situation of children affected by armed conflict, bearing in mind the existing mandates and reports of relevant bodies;

(*c*) To request the Secretary-General to conduct an in-depth study on the question of violence against children, taking into account the outcome of the special session of the General Assembly on children, and to put forward recommendations for consideration by Member States for appropriate action, including effective remedies and preventive and rehabilitative measures;

(*d*) To revert to its comprehensive consideration of this question at its fifty-seventh session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of the rights of children".

RESOLUTION 56/139

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/579, para. 16)[210]

56/139. The girl child

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/78 of 4 December 2000 and all relevant resolutions, including the agreed conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women, in particular those relevant to the girl child,

Recalling also all relevant United Nations conferences and the Declaration and Agenda for Action adopted by the World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, held at Stockholm from 27 to 31 August 1996,[211] as well as the outcome documents of the recent five-year reviews of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[212] and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,[213]

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[203] A/S-27/3.

[204] A/56/203.

[205] A/56/342-S/2001/852.

[206] See A/56/453.

[207] Resolution 54/263, annex II.

[208] Ibid., annex I.

[209] Resolution 55/25, annex II.

[210] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritius, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Singapore, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[211] A/51/385, annex.

[212] Resolution S-21/2, annex.

[213] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

Deeply concerned about discrimination against the girl child and the violation of the rights of the girl child, which often result in less access for girls to education, nutrition and physical and mental health care and in girls enjoying fewer of the rights, opportunities and benefits of childhood and adolescence than boys and often being subjected to various forms of cultural, social, sexual and economic exploitation and to violence and harmful practices, such as female infanticide, incest, early marriage, prenatal sex selection and female genital mutilation,

Recognizing the need to achieve gender equality so as to ensure a just and equitable world for girls,

Deeply concerned that, in situations of poverty, war and armed conflict, girl children are among the victims most affected and that thus their potential for full development is limited,

Concerned that the girl child has furthermore become a victim of sexually transmitted diseases and the human immunodeficiency virus, which affect the quality of her life and leave her open to further discrimination,

Reaffirming the equal rights of women and men as enshrined, inter alia, in the Preamble to the Charter of the United Nations, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[214] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[215]

Reaffirming also the political declaration[216] and further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[217] adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-third special session entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",

Reaffirming further the Dakar Framework for Action adopted at the World Education Forum,[218]

Reaffirming the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-sixth special session,[219]

1. *Stresses* the need for full and urgent implementation of the rights of the girl child as guaranteed to her under all human rights instruments, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child[215] and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[214] as well as the need for universal ratification of those instruments;

2. *Urges* States to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;[220]

3. *Welcomes* the adoption of the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict[221] and on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,[222] and invites States to consider signing and ratifying the Optional Protocols as a matter of priority with a view to their entry into force as soon as possible;

4. *Welcomes also* the United Nations Girls' Education Initiative launched by the Secretary-General at the World Education Forum;

5. *Urges* all Governments and the United Nations system to strengthen efforts bilaterally and with international organizations and private sector donors in order to achieve the goals of the World Education Forum, in particular that of eliminating gender disparities in primary and secondary education by 2005, and to implement the United Nations Girls' Education Initiative as a means of reaching this goal, and reaffirms the commitment contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration;[223]

6. *Calls upon* all States to take measures to address the obstacles that continue to affect the achievement of the goals set forth in the Beijing Platform for Action,[224] as contained in paragraph 33 of the further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[217] where appropriate, including the strengthening of national mechanisms to implement policies and programmes for the girl child and, in some cases, to enhance coordination among responsible institutions for the realization of the human rights of girls, as indicated in the further actions and initiatives;

7. *Urges* all States to take all necessary measures and to institute legal reforms to ensure the full and equal enjoyment by the girl child of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, to take effective action against violations of those rights and freedoms and to base programmes and policies for the girl child on the rights of the child;

8. *Urges* States to enact and enforce strictly laws to ensure that marriage is entered into only with the free and full consent of the intending spouses, to enact and enforce strictly laws concerning the minimum legal age of consent and the

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[214] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[215] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[216] Resolution S-23/2, annex.

[217] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

[218] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26–28 April 2000* (Paris, 2000).

[219] Resolution S-26/2, annex.

[220] Resolution 54/4, annex.

[221] Resolution 54/263, annex I.

[222] Ibid., annex II.

[223] See resolution 55/2.

[224] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

minimum age for marriage and to raise the minimum age for marriage where necessary;

9. *Urges* all States to fulfil their obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, as well as the commitment to implement the Beijing Platform for Action;

10. *Also urges* all States to enact and enforce legislation to protect girls from all forms of violence, including female infanticide and prenatal sex selection, female genital mutilation, rape, domestic violence, incest, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, child prostitution and child pornography, and to develop age-appropriate safe and confidential programmes and medical, social and psychological support services to assist girls who are subjected to violence;

11. *Calls upon* all States and international and non-governmental organizations, individually and collectively, to implement further the Beijing Platform for Action, in particular the strategic objectives relating to the girl child and including the further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;

12. *Urges* States to take special measures for the protection of war-affected girls and in particular to protect them from sexually transmitted diseases, such as the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS), and gender-based violence, including rape and sexual abuse, torture, sexual exploitation, abduction and forced labour, paying special attention to refugee and displaced girls, and to take into account the special needs of the war-affected girl child in the delivery of humanitarian assistance and disarmament, demobilization and reintegration processes;

13. *Urges* all States and the international community to respect, protect and promote the rights of the child, taking into account the particular vulnerabilities of the girl child in pre-conflict, conflict and post-conflict situations, and calls for special initiatives designed to address all of the rights and needs of war-affected girls;

14. *Welcomes* the holding of the International Conference on War-Affected Children at Winnipeg, Canada, from 10 to 17 September 2000, and takes note with appreciation of the Winnipeg Agenda for War-Affected Children;[225]

15. *Urges* States to formulate comprehensive, multidisciplinary and coordinated national plans, programmes or strategies to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, which should be widely disseminated and should provide targets and timetables for implementation, as well as effective domestic enforcement procedures through the establishment of monitoring mechanisms involving all parties concerned, including consultations with women's organizations, giving attention to the recommendations relating to the girl child of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its causes and consequences;

16. *Calls upon* Governments, civil society, including the media, and non-governmental organizations to promote human rights education and the full respect for and enjoyment of the human rights of the girl child, inter alia, through the translation, production and dissemination of age-appropriate information material on those rights to all sectors of society, in particular to children;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General, as Chairman of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination,[226] to ensure that all organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, individually and collectively, in particular the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Food Programme, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Development Programme and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, take into account the rights and the particular needs of the girl child in the country programme of cooperation in accordance with the national priorities, including through the United Nations Development Assistance Framework;[227]

18. *Requests* all human rights treaty bodies, special procedures and other human rights mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights and its Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights to adopt regularly and systematically a gender perspective in the implementation of their mandates and to include in their reports information on the qualitative analysis of violations of the human rights of women and girls, and encourages the strengthening of cooperation and coordination in that regard;

19. *Calls upon* States and international and non-governmental organizations to mobilize all necessary resources, support and efforts to realize the goals, strategic objectives and actions set out in the Beijing Platform for Action and the further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;

20. *Stresses* the importance of a substantive assessment of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action with a life-cycle perspective so as to identify gaps and obstacles in the implementation process and to develop further actions for the achievement of the goals of the Platform;

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[225] A/55/467-S/2000/973, annex.

[226] Formerly known as the Administrative Committee on Coordination (see Economic and Social Council decision 2001/321 of 24 October 2001).

[227] See A/53/226, paras. 72–77, and A/53/226/Add.1, paras. 88–98.

21. *Welcomes* the convening of the Second World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, at Yokohama, Japan, from 17 to 20 December 2001, and the regional consultative meetings for the preparation thereof, which aim to review the progress made in implementing the Declaration and Agenda for Action adopted by the first World Congress[211] and to strengthen actions to eradicate commercial sexual exploitation of children, and invites Member States and observers to ensure their representation at the Second World Congress at a high political level;

22. *Encourages* the regional commissions and other regional organizations to carry out activities in support of the Second World Congress;

23. *Stresses* the importance of integrating a gender perspective and of considering the needs and rights of the girl child in the work of the special session of the General Assembly on children.

RESOLUTION 56/140

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/580, para. 7)[228]

56/140. International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/80 of 4 December 2000 and previous resolutions on the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People,

Recalling also its resolution 40/131 of 13 December 1985, by which it established the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations,

Recalling further that the goal of the Decade is to strengthen international cooperation for the solution of problems faced by indigenous people in such areas as human rights, the environment, development, education and health, and that the theme of the Decade is "Indigenous people: partnership in action",

Welcoming, in this respect, the contribution made through the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held at Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001, to the realization of the goals of the Decade,

Welcoming also the appointment of a special rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people, with the mandate spelled out in Commission resolution 2001/57 of 24 April 2001,[229]

Recognizing the importance of consultation and cooperation with indigenous people in planning and implementing the programme of activities for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People,[230] the need for adequate financial support from the international community, including support from within the United Nations system, and the need for adequate coordination and communication channels,

Urging all parties to continue to intensify their efforts to achieve the goals of the Decade,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the programme of activities for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People;[231]

2. *Affirms its conviction* of the value and diversity of the cultures and forms of social organization of indigenous people and its conviction that the development of indigenous people within their countries will contribute to the socio-economic, cultural and environmental advancement of all the countries of the world;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of strengthening the human and institutional capacity of indigenous people to develop their own solutions to their problems;

4. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, as coordinator for the Decade:

(*a*) To continue to promote the objectives of the Decade, taking into account, in the fulfilment of her functions, the special concerns of indigenous people;

(*b*) To give due regard to the dissemination, from within existing resources and voluntary contributions, of information on the situation, cultures, languages, rights and aspirations of indigenous people and, in that context, to consider the possibility of organizing projects, special events, exhibitions and other activities addressed to the public, in particular to young people;

(*c*) To submit, through the Secretary-General, an annual report to the General Assembly on the implementation of the programme of activities for the Decade;

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[228] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Luxembourg, Mexico, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Peru, Portugal, Russian Federation, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Venezuela.

[229] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[230] Resolution 50/157, annex.

[231] A/56/206.

5. *Reaffirms* the adoption of a declaration on the rights of indigenous people as a major objective of the Decade, and underlines the importance of effective participation by indigenous representatives in the open-ended inter-sessional working group of the Commission on Human Rights charged with developing a draft declaration on the rights of indigenous people, established pursuant to Commission resolution 1995/32 of 3 March 1995;[232]

6. *Welcomes* Economic and Social Council decision 2001/316 of 26 July 2001 concerning the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues;

7. *Encourages* Governments to support the Decade by:

(*a*) Preparing relevant programmes, plans and reports in relation to the Decade, in consultation with indigenous people;

(*b*) Seeking means, in consultation with indigenous people, of giving indigenous people greater responsibility for their own affairs and an effective voice in decisions on matters that affect them;

(*c*) Establishing national committees or other mechanisms involving indigenous people to ensure that the objectives and activities of the Decade are planned and implemented on the basis of full partnership with indigenous people;

(*d*) Contributing to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People;

(*e*) Contributing, together with other donors, to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations in order to assist indigenous representatives in participating in the Working Group on Indigenous Populations of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and the open-ended inter-sessional working group of the Commission on Human Rights charged with elaborating a draft declaration on the rights of indigenous people;

(*f*) Considering contributing, as appropriate, to the Fund for the Development of Indigenous Peoples in Latin America and the Caribbean, in support of the goals of the Decade;

(*g*) Identifying resources for activities designed to implement the goals of the Decade, in cooperation with indigenous people and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

8. *Invites* United Nations financial and development institutions, operational programmes and the specialized agencies and secretariats, as well as other regional and international organizations, in accordance with the existing procedures of their governing bodies:

(*a*) To give increased priority and resources to improving the conditions of indigenous people, with particular emphasis on the needs of those people in developing countries, including through the preparation of specific programmes of action for the implementation of the goals of the Decade, within their areas of competence;

(*b*) To launch special projects, through appropriate channels and in cooperation with indigenous people, to strengthen their community-level initiatives and to facilitate the exchange of information and expertise among indigenous people and other relevant experts;

(*c*) To designate focal points for the coordination of activities related to the Decade with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

and commends those institutions, programmes, agencies and regional and international organizations that have already done so;

9. *Decides* that the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations should also be used to assist representatives of indigenous communities and organizations in attending, as observers, the sessions of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues;

10. *Appeals* to all Governments and organizations to consider contributing to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations, if possible with a substantial increase in the level of contributions;

11. *Recommends* that the Secretary-General ensure coordinated follow-up to the recommendations concerning indigenous people of relevant United Nations conferences, namely, the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 3 to 14 June 1992, the International Conference on Population and Development, held at Cairo from 5 to 13 September 1994, the Fourth World Conference on Women, held at Beijing from 4 to 15 September 1995, the World Summit for Social Development, held at Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), held at Istanbul, Turkey, from 3 to 14 June 1996, and the World Food Summit, held at Rome from 13 to 17 November 1996, and other relevant international conferences;

12. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to submit, through the Secretary-General, a report on the implementation of the programme of activities for the Decade to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People".

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[232] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/1995/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

RESOLUTION 56/141

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/582, para. 17)[233]

56/141. Universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the importance, for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights, of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and embodied in the International Covenants on Human Rights,[234] as well as in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Welcoming the progressive exercise of the right to self-determination by peoples under colonial, foreign or alien occupation and their emergence into sovereign statehood and independence,

Deeply concerned at the continuation of acts or threats of foreign military intervention and occupation that are threatening to suppress, or have already suppressed, the right to self-determination of sovereign peoples and nations,

Expressing grave concern that, as a consequence of the persistence of such actions, millions of people have been and are being uprooted from their homes as refugees and displaced persons, and emphasizing the urgent need for concerted international action to alleviate their condition,

Recalling the relevant resolutions regarding the violation of the right of peoples to self-determination and other human rights as a result of foreign military intervention, aggression and occupation adopted by the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-seventh[235] and previous sessions,

Reaffirming its previous resolutions on the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination, including resolution 55/85 of 4 December 2000,

Reaffirming also its resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000, containing the United Nations Millennium Declaration, which, inter alia, upholds the right to self-determination of peoples under colonial domination and foreign occupation,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the right of peoples to self-determination,[236]

1. *Reaffirms* that the universal realization of the right of all peoples, including those under colonial, foreign and alien domination, to self-determination is a fundamental condition for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights and for the preservation and promotion of such rights;

2. *Declares its firm opposition* to acts of foreign military intervention, aggression and occupation, since these have resulted in the suppression of the right of peoples to self-determination and other human rights in certain parts of the world;

3. *Calls upon* those States responsible to cease immediately their military intervention in and occupation of foreign countries and territories and all acts of repression, discrimination, exploitation and maltreatment, in particular the brutal and inhuman methods reportedly employed for the execution of those acts against the peoples concerned;

4. *Deplores* the plight of millions of refugees and displaced persons who have been uprooted as a result of the aforementioned acts, and reaffirms their right to return to their homes voluntarily in safety and honour;

5. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to continue to give special attention to the violation of human rights, especially the right to self-determination, resulting from foreign military intervention, aggression or occupation;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on this question to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session under the item entitled "Right of peoples to self-determination".

RESOLUTION 56/142

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/582, para. 17),[237] by a recorded vote of 161 to 3, with 1 abstention, as follows:

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[233] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Chile, Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Somalia, Suriname, Thailand, Togo, United Arab Emirates and Viet Nam.

[234] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[235] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[236] A/56/295.

[237] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Monaco, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Palestine.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, United States of America

Abstaining: Micronesia (Federated States of)

56/142. The right of the Palestinian people to self-determination

The General Assembly,

Aware that the development of friendly relations among nations, based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, is among the purposes and principles of the United Nations, as defined in the Charter,

Recalling the International Covenants on Human Rights,[238] the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[239] the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples[240] and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted at the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[241]

Recalling also the Declaration on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations,[242]

Recalling further the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[243]

Expressing hope for an immediate resumption of negotiations within the Middle East peace process on its agreed basis and for the speedy achievement of a final settlement between the Palestinian and Israeli sides,

Affirming the right of all States in the region to live in peace within secure and internationally recognized borders,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, including the right to their independent State;

2. *Expresses the hope* that the Palestinian people will soon be exercising their right to self-determination, which is not subject to any veto, in the current peace process;

3. *Urges* all States and the specialized agencies and the organizations of the United Nations system to continue to support and assist the Palestinian people in their quest for self-determination.

RESOLUTION 56/143

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/583/Add.1, para. 24)[244]

56/143. Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

The General Assembly,

Recalling article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[245] article 7 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[246] the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment[247] and its resolution 39/46 of 10 December 1984, by which it adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and all its subsequent relevant resolutions,

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[238] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[239] Resolution 217 A (III).

[240] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[241] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[242] See resolution 50/6.

[243] See resolution 55/2.

[244] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Venezuela.

[245] Resolution 217 A (III).

[246] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[247] Resolution 3452 (XXX), annex.

Recalling also that freedom from torture is a right that must be protected under all circumstances, including in times of internal or international disturbance or armed conflict,

Recalling further that the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, firmly declared that efforts to eradicate torture should, first and foremost, be concentrated on prevention and called for the early adoption of an optional protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, which is intended to establish a preventive system of regular visits to places of detention,

Urging all Governments to promote the speedy and full implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[248] in particular the section relating to freedom from torture, in which it is stated that States should abrogate legislation leading to impunity for those responsible for grave violations of human rights, such as torture, and prosecute such violations, thereby providing a firm basis for the rule of law,

Recalling its resolution 36/151 of 16 December 1981, in which it noted with deep concern that acts of torture took place in various countries, recognized the need to provide assistance to the victims in a purely humanitarian spirit and established the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture,

Recalling also the recommendation contained in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action that high priority should be given to providing the necessary resources to assist victims of torture and effective remedies for their physical, psychological and social rehabilitation, inter alia, through additional contributions to the Fund,

Noting with satisfaction the existence of a considerable international network of centres for the rehabilitation of victims of torture, which plays an important role in providing assistance to victims of torture, and the collaboration of the Fund with the centres,

Commending the persistent efforts by non-governmental organizations to combat torture and to alleviate the suffering of victims of torture,

Mindful of its proclamation, in its resolution 52/149 of 12 December 1997, of 26 June as the United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture,

1. *Condemns* all forms of torture, including through intimidation, as described in article 1 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;[249]

2. *Stresses* that all allegations of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment should be promptly and impartially examined by the competent national authority, that those who encourage, order, tolerate or perpetrate acts of torture must be held responsible and severely punished, including the officials in charge of the place of detention at which the prohibited act is found to have taken place, and that national legal systems should ensure that the victims of such acts obtain redress, are awarded fair and adequate compensation and receive appropriate social and medical rehabilitation;

3. *Recalls* the Principles on the Effective Investigation and Documentation of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[250] and strongly encourages Governments to reflect upon the Principles as a useful tool in efforts to combat torture;

4. *Notes with appreciation* that one hundred and twenty-six States have become parties to the Convention;

5. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention as a matter of priority;

6. *Invites* all States ratifying or acceding to the Convention and those States that are parties to the Convention and have not yet done so to consider joining the States parties that have made the declarations provided for in articles 21 and 22 of the Convention and to consider the possibility of withdrawing their reservations to article 20;

7. *Urges* all States parties to the Convention to notify the Secretary-General of their acceptance of the amendments to articles 17 and 18 of the Convention as soon as possible;

8. *Urges* States parties to comply strictly with their obligations under the Convention, including, in view of the high number of reports not submitted, their obligation to submit reports in accordance with article 19 of the Convention, and invites States parties to incorporate a gender perspective and information concerning children and juveniles when submitting reports to the Committee against Torture;

9. *Emphasizes* the obligation of States parties under article 10 of the Convention to ensure education and training for personnel who may be involved in the custody, interrogation or treatment of any individual subjected to any form of arrest, detention or imprisonment;

10. *Stresses*, in this context, that States must not punish personnel referred to in paragraph 9 above for not obeying orders to commit or conceal acts amounting to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

11. *Calls upon* all Governments to take appropriate effective legislative, administrative, judicial or other measures to prevent and prohibit the production, trade, export and use of

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[248] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[249] Resolution 39/46, annex.

[250] Resolution 55/89, annex.

equipment that is specifically designed to inflict torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment;

12. *Welcomes* the work of the Committee, and takes note of the report of the Committee,[251] submitted in accordance with article 24 of the Convention;

13. *Acknowledges* the number of reports and communications awaiting consideration by the Committee, and in this regard decides to authorize the Committee to establish a pre-sessional working group composed of four of its members to meet for a five-day session during the week preceding each session of the Committee, and invites the Committee to continue to enhance its methods of work;

14. *Calls upon* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in conformity with her mandate established in General Assembly resolution 48/141 of 20 December 1993, to continue to provide, at the request of Governments, advisory services for the preparation of national reports to the Committee and for the prevention of torture, as well as technical assistance in the development, production and distribution of teaching material for these purposes;

15. *Urges* States parties to take fully into account the conclusions and recommendations made by the Committee after its consideration of their reports;

16. *Welcomes* the progress made by the open-ended working group of the Commission on Human Rights on a draft optional protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and urges the working group to complete as soon as possible a final text for submission to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, for consideration and adoption;

17. *Takes note with appreciation* of the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the question of torture,[252] describing the overall trends and developments with regard to his mandate, and encourages the Special Rapporteur to continue to include in his recommendations proposals on the prevention and investigation of torture;

18. *Invites* the Special Rapporteur to continue to examine questions of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment directed against women, and conditions conducive to such torture, and to make appropriate recommendations for the prevention and redress of gender-specific forms of torture, including rape or any other form of sexual violence, and to exchange views with the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its causes and consequences, with the aim of enhancing further their effectiveness and mutual cooperation;

19. *Also invites* the Special Rapporteur to continue to consider questions relating to the torture of children and conditions conducive to such torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and to make appropriate recommendations for the prevention of such torture;

20. *Calls upon* Governments to cooperate with and assist the Special Rapporteur in the performance of his or her task, to provide all necessary information requested by the Special Rapporteur, to respond appropriately and expeditiously to the urgent appeals of the Special Rapporteur and to give serious consideration to requests by the Special Rapporteur to visit their countries, and urges them to enter into a constructive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur in following up his or her recommendations;

21. *Reiterates* the need for the Special Rapporteur to be able to respond effectively, in particular to urgent appeals, to credible and reliable information that comes before him or her, and invites the Special Rapporteur to continue to seek the views and comments of all concerned, in particular Member States;

22. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to continue to consider including in his or her reports information on the follow-up by Governments to his or her recommendations, visits and communications, including progress made and problems encountered;

23. *Stresses* the need for the continued regular exchange of views among the Committee, the Special Rapporteur and other relevant United Nations mechanisms and bodies, as well as for the pursuance of cooperation with relevant United Nations programmes, notably the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, with a view to enhancing further their effectiveness and cooperation on issues relating to torture, inter alia, by improving their coordination;

24. *Expresses its gratitude and appreciation* to the Governments, organizations and individuals that have contributed to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture;

25. *Stresses* the importance of the work of the Board of Trustees of the Fund, and appeals to all Governments and organizations to contribute annually to the Fund, preferably by 1 March prior to the annual meeting of the Board, if possible with a substantial increase in the level of contributions, so that consideration may be given to the ever-increasing demand for assistance;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to all Governments the appeals of the General Assembly for contributions to the Fund and to continue to include the Fund on an annual basis among the programmes for which funds are pledged at the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities;

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[251] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 44* (A/56/44).

[252] See A/56/156.

27. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to assist the Board of Trustees of the Fund in its appeal for contributions and in its efforts to make better known the existence of the Fund and the financial means currently available to it, as well as in its assessment of the global need for international funding of rehabilitation services for victims of torture and, in this effort, to make use of all existing possibilities, including the preparation, production and dissemination of information materials;

28. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the provision of adequate staff and facilities for the bodies and mechanisms involved in combating torture and assisting victims of torture, commensurate with the strong support expressed by Member States for combating torture and assisting victims of torture;

29. *Invites* donor countries and recipient countries to consider including in their bilateral programmes and projects relating to the training of armed forces, security forces, prison and police personnel and health-care personnel matters relating to the protection of human rights and the prevention of torture, while bearing in mind a gender perspective;

30. *Calls upon* all Governments, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and other United Nations bodies and agencies, as well as relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to commemorate, on 26 June, the United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture;

31. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-eighth session and to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the status of the Convention and a report on the operations of the Fund;

32. *Decides* to consider at its fifty-seventh session the reports of the Secretary-General, including the report on the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, the report of the Committee against Torture and the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the question of torture.

RESOLUTION 56/144

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/583/Add.1, para. 24)[253]

56/144. International Covenants on Human Rights

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/157 of 17 December 1999 and 55/90 of 4 December 2000 and Commission on Human Rights resolution 2000/67 of 26 April 2000,[254]

Mindful that the International Covenants on Human Rights[255] constitute the first all-embracing and legally binding international treaties in the field of human rights and, together with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[256] form the core of the International Bill of Human Rights,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General[257] on the status of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[255] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[255] and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[258]

Recalling the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and reaffirming that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the promotion and protection of one category of rights should never exempt or excuse States from the promotion and protection of the other rights,

Recognizing the important role of the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in examining the progress made by States parties in fulfilling the obligations undertaken in the International Covenants on Human Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and in providing recommendations to States parties on their implementation,

Considering that the effective functioning of the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights is indispensable for the full and effective implementation of the International Covenants on Human Rights,

Recognizing the importance of regional human rights instruments and monitoring mechanisms in complementing the universal system of promotion and protection of human rights,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of the International Covenants on Human Rights[255] as major components of international efforts to promote universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

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[253] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine and Venezuela.

[254] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[255] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[256] Resolution 217 A (III).

[257] A/56/178.

[258] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex, and resolution 44/128, annex.

2. *Welcomes* the initiative of the Secretary-General at the Millennium Assembly of the United Nations to invite heads of State and Government to sign, ratify or accede to the International Covenants on Human Rights, and expresses its appreciation to those States that have done so;

3. *Strongly appeals* to all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[255] and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[255] as well as to accede to the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[258] and to make the declaration provided for in article 41 of the Covenant;

4. *Invites* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to intensify systematic efforts to encourage States to become parties to the International Covenants on Human Rights and, through the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights, to assist such States, at their request, in ratifying or acceding to the Covenants and to the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights with a view to achieving universal adherence;

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of the strictest compliance by States parties with their obligations under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and, where applicable, the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

6. *Stresses* the importance of avoiding the erosion of human rights by derogation, and underlines the necessity of strict observance of the agreed conditions and procedures for derogation under article 4 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, bearing in mind the need for States parties to provide the fullest possible information during states of emergency so that the justification for the appropriateness of measures taken in those circumstances can be assessed, and in this regard takes note of General Comment No. 29 adopted by the Human Rights Committee;[259]

7. *Encourages* States parties to consider limiting the extent of any reservations that they lodge to the International Covenants on Human Rights, to formulate any reservations as precisely and narrowly as possible and to ensure that no reservation is incompatible with the object and purpose of the relevant treaty;

8. *Also encourages* States parties to review regularly any reservations made in respect of the provisions of the International Covenants on Human Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights with a view to withdrawing them;

9. *Takes note with appreciation* of the annual reports of the Human Rights Committee submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth[260] and fifty-sixth[261] sessions, and takes note of General Comments Nos. 27,[262] 28[263] and 29[259] adopted by the Committee;

10. *Welcomes* the reports of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its twentieth and twenty-first sessions[264] and on its twenty-second, twenty-third and twenty-fourth sessions,[265] and takes note of General Comments Nos. 11,[266] 12,[267] 13[268] and 14[269] adopted by the Committee;

11. *Urges* States parties to fulfil in good time such reporting obligations under the International Covenants on Human Rights as may be requested and to make use in their reports of gender-disaggregated data, and stresses the importance of taking fully into account a gender perspective in the implementation of the Covenants at the national level, including in the national reports of States parties and in the work of the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

12. *Calls upon* States parties that have not yet submitted core documents to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to do so, and invites all States parties regularly to review and update their core documents;

13. *Urges* States parties to take duly into account, in implementing the provisions of the International Covenants on Human Rights, the recommendations and observations made during the consideration of their reports by the Human Rights Committee and by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as well as the views adopted by the Human Rights Committee under the first Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

14. *Invites* States parties to give particular attention to the dissemination at the national level of their reports submitted to the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the summary records relating to the examination of those reports by the Committees

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[259] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 40* (A/56/40), vol. I, annex VI.

[260] Ibid., *Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 40* (A/55/40).

[261] Ibid., *Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 40* (A/56/40).

[262] Ibid., *Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 40* (A/55/40), vol. I, annex VI A.

[263] Ibid., annex VI B.

[264] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 2* and corrigendum (E/2000/22 and Corr.1).

[265] Ibid., *2001, Supplement No. 2* (E/2001/22).

[266] Ibid., *2000, Supplement No. 2* and corrigendum (E/2000/22 and Corr.1), annex IV.

[267] Ibid., annex V.

[268] Ibid., annex VI.

[269] Ibid., *2001, Supplement No. 2* (E/2001/22), annex IV.

and the recommendations and observations made by the Committees after the examination of those reports;

15. *Urges* all States to publish the texts of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights in as many local languages as possible and to distribute them and make them known as widely as possible in their territories;

16. *Urges* each State party to translate, publish and make widely available in its territory by appropriate means the full text of the concluding observations on its reports to the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

17. *Reiterates* that States parties should take into account, in their nomination of members to the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, that the Committees shall be composed of persons of high moral character and recognized competence in the field of human rights, consideration being given to the usefulness of the participation of some persons having legal experience, and that members serve in their personal capacity, and also reiterates that, in the elections of the Committees, consideration shall be given to equitable geographical distribution of membership and to the representation of the different forms of civilization and of the principal legal systems;

18. *Invites* the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, when considering the reports of States parties, to continue to identify specific needs that might be addressed by United Nations departments, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, including through the advisory services and technical assistance programme of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

19. *Stresses* the need for improved coordination among relevant United Nations mechanisms and bodies in supporting States parties, upon their request, in implementing the International Covenants on Human Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and encourages continued efforts in this direction;

20. *Takes note* of the adoption by the Human Rights Committee of its revised rules of procedure,[270] and welcomes the efforts of the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights regularly to review their working methods in order to increase their efficiency and effectiveness;

21. *Welcomes* the meeting between the Human Rights Committee and States parties, held on 30 October 2000, to exchange ideas on how to render the working methods of the Committee more efficient, expresses appreciation for the decision of the Committee to organize similar consultations in 2002, and encourages all States parties to continue to contribute to the dialogue with practical and concrete proposals and ideas on ways to improve the effective functioning of the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

22. *Also welcomes* the continuing efforts of the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to strive for uniform standards in the implementation of the provisions of the International Covenants on Human Rights, and appeals to other bodies dealing with similar human rights questions to respect those uniform standards, as expressed in the general comments of the Committees;

23. *Stresses* the need for further efforts towards developing indicators and benchmarks to measure progress in the national implementation by States parties of the rights protected by the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

24. *Welcomes* Economic and Social Council decision 2001/220 of 4 June 2001, in which the Council authorized the appointment by the Commission on Human Rights of an independent expert to examine the question of a draft optional protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and invites the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to consider contributing to the work of the independent expert;

25. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to assist States parties to the International Covenants on Human Rights in the preparation of their reports, including by convening seminars or workshops at the national level for the training of government officials engaged in the preparation of such reports and by exploring other possibilities available under the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights effectively assists the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in the implementation of their respective mandates by providing, inter alia, adequate Secretariat staff resources and conference and other relevant support services;

27. *Decides* to endorse the request by the Human Rights Committee to hold an additional week of meetings at Geneva in 2002 in order to reduce further the existing backlog;

28. *Welcomes* the initiative of the Secretary-General, taking into account the suggestions of the Human Rights Committee, to take determined steps, in particular through the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, to give

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[270] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 40* (A/56/40), vol. I, annex III B.

more publicity to the work of that Committee and, similarly, to the work of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Human rights questions", a report on the status of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, including all reservations and declarations.

RESOLUTION 56/145

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/583/Add.1, para. 24)[271]

56/145. International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming once more the permanent validity of the principles and norms set forth in the basic instruments regarding the international protection of human rights, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[272] the International Covenants on Human Rights,[273] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[274] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[275] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[276]

Bearing in mind the principles and norms established within the framework of the International Labour Organization and the importance of the work done in connection with migrant workers and members of their families in other specialized agencies and in various organs of the United Nations,

Reiterating that, despite the existence of an already established body of principles and norms, there is a need to make further efforts to improve the situation and to guarantee respect for the human rights and dignity of all migrant workers and members of their families,

Aware of the situation of migrant workers and members of their families and the marked increase in migratory movements that has occurred, especially in certain parts of the world,

Considering that, in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[277] all States are urged to guarantee the protection of the human rights of all migrant workers and members of their families,

Underlining the importance of the creation and promotion of conditions to foster greater harmony and tolerance between migrant workers and the rest of the society of the State in which they reside, with the aim of eliminating the growing manifestations of racism and xenophobia perpetrated in segments of many societies by individuals or groups against migrant workers,

Recalling its resolution 45/158 of 18 December 1990, by which it adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,

Bearing in mind that, in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, States are invited to consider the possibility of signing and ratifying the Convention at the earliest possible time,

1. *Expresses its deep concern* at the growing manifestations of racism, xenophobia and other forms of discrimination and inhuman or degrading treatment directed against migrant workers in various parts of the world;

2. *Welcomes* the signature or ratification of or accession to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families[278] by some Member States;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Convention as a matter of priority, expresses the hope that it will enter into force at an early date, and notes that, pursuant to article 87 of the Convention, only four more ratifications or accessions are needed for it to enter into force;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all the facilities and assistance necessary for the promotion of the Convention through the World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights and the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights;

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[271] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Colombia, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Haiti, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Suriname, Tunisia, Turkey and Uruguay.

[272] Resolution 217 A (III).

[273] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[274] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[275] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[276] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[277] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[278] Resolution 45/158, annex.

5. *Welcomes* the global campaign for the entry into force of the Convention, and invites the organizations and agencies of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to intensify further their efforts with a view to disseminating information on and promoting understanding of the importance of the Convention;

6. *Also welcomes* the work of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the human rights of migrants in relation to the Convention, and encourages her to continue in this endeavour;

7. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[279] and requests him to submit an updated report on the status of the Convention to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

8. *Decides* to consider the report of the Secretary-General at its fifty-seventh session under the sub-item entitled "Implementation of human rights instruments".

RESOLUTION 56/146

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/583/Add.1, para. 24),[280] by a recorded vote of 113 to 47, with 5 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Georgia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

Against: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia

Abstaining: Argentina, Brazil, Gambia, Slovakia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

56/146. Equitable geographical distribution in the membership of the human rights treaty bodies

The General Assembly,

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2001/76 of 25 April 2001[281] and Economic and Social Council decision 2001/275 of 24 July 2001,

Reaffirming the importance of the goal of universal ratification of the United Nations human rights instruments,

Welcoming the significant increase in the number of ratifications of United Nations human rights instruments, which has especially contributed to their universality,

Reiterating the importance of the effective functioning of treaty bodies established pursuant to United Nations human rights instruments for the full and effective implementation of those instruments,

Recalling that, with regard to the election of the members of the human rights treaty bodies, the Commission on Human Rights has recognized the importance of giving consideration in their membership to equitable geographical distribution, gender balance and representation of the principal legal systems, and of bearing in mind that the members shall be elected and shall serve in their personal capacity, and shall be of high moral character, acknowledged impartiality and recognized competence in the field of human rights,

Recalling also that the Commission on Human Rights has encouraged States parties to United Nations human rights treaties, individually and through meetings of States parties, to consider how to give better effect, inter alia, to the principle of equitable geographical distribution in the membership of treaty bodies,

Expressing concern at the clear regional imbalance in the current composition of the membership of the human rights treaty bodies, with the exception of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, which is applying a quota system in the distribution of its seats by regional groups,

Noting in particular that the status quo tends to be particularly detrimental to the election of experts from some regional groups,

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[279] A/56/179.

[280] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Cambodia, Cameroon, China, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Eritrea, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[281] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

Convinced that the goal of equitable geographical distribution in the membership of human rights treaty bodies is perfectly compatible and can be fully realized and achieved in harmony with the need to ensure gender balance and the representation of the principal legal systems in those bodies and the high moral character, acknowledged impartiality and recognized competence in the field of human rights of their members,

1. *Encourages* States parties to the United Nations human rights instruments to establish quota distribution systems by geographical region for the election of the members of the treaty bodies;

2. *Calls upon* the States parties to the United Nations human rights instruments to include, as an agenda item at their forthcoming meetings, the establishment of equitable geographical distribution in the membership of the human rights treaty bodies, based on the recommendations of the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council and the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Recommends*, when establishing the quota for each geographical region in each treaty body, the introduction of flexible procedures that encompass the following criteria:

(*a*) Each of the five regional groups established by the General Assembly must be assigned a quota of the membership of each treaty body in equivalent proportion to the number of States parties to the instrument that it represents;

(*b*) There must be provision for periodic revisions that reflect the relative changes in the geographical distribution of States parties;

(*c*) Automatic periodic revisions should be envisaged in order to avoid amending the text of the instrument when the quotas are revised;

4. *Stresses* that the process needed to achieve the goal of equitable geographical distribution in the membership of human rights treaty bodies can contribute to raising awareness of the importance of gender balance, the representation of the principal legal systems and the principle that the members of the treaty bodies shall be elected and shall serve in their personal capacity, and shall be of high moral character, acknowledged impartiality and recognized competence in the field of human rights.

RESOLUTION 56/147

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/583/Add.2, para. 109)[282]

56/147. Human rights education

The General Assembly,

Taking into account Commission on Human Rights resolution 2001/61 of 25 April 2001[283] regarding the importance of human rights education as a priority in education policies,

Considering Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/38 of 26 July 2001 on human rights education,

Convinced that human rights education and information contribute to the concept of development consistent with the dignity of women and men of all ages, which takes into account particularly vulnerable segments of society of all ages, such as children, youth, older persons, indigenous people, minorities, rural and urban poor, migrant workers, refugees, persons with the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) and disabled persons,

Considering the importance of human rights education,

Convinced that human rights education is a key to development,

Taking note with appreciation of the mid-term global evaluation of the progress made towards the achievement of the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995–2004, contained in the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights,[284]

Taking into account the recommendations of the mid-term global evaluation of the progress made towards the achievement of the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995–2004,

1. *Invites* all Governments to reaffirm their commitments and obligations to develop national strategies for human rights education which are comprehensive, participatory and effective and which can be embodied in a national plan of action for human rights education as part of their national development plan;

2. *Invites* the United Nations, intergovernmental organizations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other relevant intergovernmental organizations, to adopt a system-wide approach to the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995–2004;

3. *Invites* relevant regional human rights organizations, agencies and networks to develop human rights education programmes and human rights training programmes and strategies for wider distribution of material on human rights education in all possible languages;

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[282] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Antigua and Barbuda, Bangladesh, Belize, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Costa Rica, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominica, Fiji, Grenada, Haiti, Kenya, Namibia, Netherlands, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Sierra Leone, Suriname and Togo.

[283] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[284] See A/55/360.

4. *Recognizes* the role that non-governmental organizations play in developing and implementing strategies to assist Governments to integrate human rights education into all levels of education for children, youth and adults.

RESOLUTION 56/148

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/583/Add.2, para. 109),[285] by a recorded vote of 114 to 51, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia

Abstaining: Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan

56/148. Human rights and unilateral coercive measures

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/103 of 12 December 1996, 52/120 of 12 December 1997, 53/141 of 9 December 1998, 54/172 of 17 December 1999 and 55/110 of 4 December 2000, as well as Commission on Human Rights resolutions 1998/11 of 9 April 1998[286] and 2000/11 of 17 April 2000,[287] and taking note of Commission resolution 2001/26 of 20 April 2001,[288]

Reaffirming the pertinent principles and provisions contained in the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, in particular article 32 thereof, in which it declared that no State may use or encourage the use of economic, political or any other type of measures to coerce another State in order to obtain from it the subordination of the exercise of its sovereign rights,

Taking note of the report submitted by the Secretary-General[289] pursuant to Commission on Human Rights resolution 1999/21 of 23 April 1999,[290] and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolutions 52/120 and 55/110,[291]

Recognizing the universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated character of all human rights, and in this regard reaffirming the right to development as an integral part of all human rights,

Recalling that the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, called upon States to refrain from any unilateral coercive measure not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that creates obstacles to trade relations among States and impedes the full realization of all human rights,[292]

Bearing in mind all the references to this question in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development adopted by the World Summit for Social Development on 12 March 1995,[293] the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women on 15 September 1995,[294] the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements and the Habitat Agenda adopted by the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) on 14 June 1996[295] and their five-year reviews,

Expressing its concern about the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures in the field of international relations, trade, investment and cooperation,

Deeply concerned that, despite the recommendations adopted on this question by the General Assembly and recent major United Nations conferences and contrary to general international law and the Charter of the United Nations, unilateral coercive measures continue to be promulgated and implemented with all their negative implications for the social-humanitarian activities and economic and social development of developing countries, including their extraterritorial effects, thereby creating additional obstacles to the full enjoyment of all human rights by peoples and individuals under the jurisdiction of other States,

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[285] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by South Africa (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and China).

[286] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 3* (E/1998/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[287] Ibid., *2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[288] Ibid., *2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[289] E/CN.4/2001/50.

[290] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[291] A/56/207 and Add.1.

[292] See A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III, sect. I, para. 31.

[293] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[294] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[295] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3–14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

Bearing in mind all the extraterritorial effects of any unilateral legislative, administrative and economic measures, policies and practices of a coercive nature against the development process and the enhancement of human rights in developing countries, which create obstacles to the full realization of all human rights,

Noting the continuing efforts of the Open-ended Working Group on the Right to Development of the Commission on Human Rights, and reaffirming in particular its criteria according to which coercive measures are one of the obstacles to the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development,[296]

1. *Urges* all States to refrain from adopting or implementing any unilateral measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations, in particular those of a coercive nature with all their extraterritorial effects, which create obstacles to trade relations among States, thus impeding the full realization of the rights set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[297] and other international human rights instruments, in particular the right of individuals and peoples to development;

2. *Invites* all States to consider adopting administrative or legislative measures, as appropriate, to counteract the extraterritorial application or effects of unilateral coercive measures;

3. *Rejects* unilateral coercive measures with all their extraterritorial effects as tools for political or economic pressure against any country, in particular against developing countries, because of their negative effects on the realization of all the human rights of vast sectors of their populations, in particular children, women and the elderly;

4. *Calls upon* Member States that have initiated such measures to commit themselves to their obligations and responsibilities arising from the international human rights instruments to which they are party by revoking such measures at the earliest possible time;

5. *Reaffirms* in this context the right of all peoples to self-determination, by virtue of which they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development;

6. *Urges* the Commission on Human Rights to take fully into account the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures, including the enactment of national laws and their extraterritorial application, in its task concerning the implementation of the right to development;

7. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in discharging her functions relating to the promotion, realization and protection of the right to development and bearing in mind the continuing impact of unilateral coercive measures on the population of developing countries, to give priority to the present resolution in her annual report to the General Assembly;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States, to continue to collect their views and information on the implications and negative effects of unilateral coercive measures on their populations and to submit an analytical report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session, highlighting the practical and preventive measures in this respect;

9. *Decides* to examine this question on a priority basis at its fifty-seventh session under the sub-item entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

RESOLUTION 56/149

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/583/Add.2, para. 109)[298]

56/149. Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its commitment to promoting international cooperation, as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, in particular Article 1, paragraph 3, as well as relevant provisions of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[299] for enhancing genuine cooperation among Member States in the field of human rights,

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[296] Resolution 41/128, annex.

[297] Resolution 217 A (III).

[298] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by South Africa (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and China).

[299] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

Recalling its adoption of the United Nations Millennium Declaration on 8 September 2000[300] and its resolution 55/109 of 4 December 2000, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2001/67 of 25 April 2001 on the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights,[301]

Recalling also the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held at Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001, and its role in the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights,

Recognizing that the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights is essential for the full achievement of the purposes of the United Nations, including the effective promotion and protection of all human rights,

Reaffirming that dialogue among religions, cultures and civilizations in the field of human rights could contribute greatly to the enhancement of international cooperation in this field, and recalling its decision to proclaim the year 2001 as the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations, as well as its resolution 55/23 of 13 November 2000 and its resolution 56/6 of 9 November 2001 entitled "Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations",

Emphasizing the need for further progress in the promotion and encouragement of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms through, inter alia, international cooperation,

Underlining the fact that mutual understanding, dialogue, cooperation, transparency and confidence-building are important elements in all the activities for the promotion and protection of human rights,

Recalling the adoption of resolution 2000/22 of 18 August 2000, entitled "Promotion of dialogue on human rights issues", by the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights at its fifty-second session,[302]

1. *Reaffirms* that it is one of the purposes of the United Nations and the responsibility of all Member States to promote, protect and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms through, inter alia, international cooperation;

2. *Also reaffirms* that dialogue among cultures and civilizations facilitates the promotion of a culture of tolerance and respect for diversity, and welcomes in this regard the holding of several conferences and meetings at the national, regional and international levels on dialogue among civilizations, as well as the meetings of the General Assembly under the agenda item entitled "United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations", held on 8 and 9 November 2001;

3. *Considers* that international cooperation in this field, in conformity with the purposes and principles set out in the Charter of the United Nations and international law, should make an effective and practical contribution to the urgent task of preventing violations of human rights and of fundamental freedoms for all;

4. *Reaffirms* that the promotion, protection and full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms should be guided by the principles of universality, non-selectivity, objectivity and transparency, in a manner consistent with the purposes and principles set out in the Charter;

5. *Calls upon* Member States, specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations to continue to carry out a constructive dialogue and consultations for the enhancement of understanding and the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and encourages non-governmental organizations to contribute actively to this endeavour;

6. *Invites* States and relevant United Nations human rights mechanisms and procedures to continue to pay attention to the importance of mutual cooperation, understanding and dialogue in ensuring the promotion and protection of all human rights;

7. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this question at its fifty-seventh session.

RESOLUTION 56/150

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/583/Add.2, para. 109),[303] by a recorded vote of 123 to 4, with 44 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

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[300] See resolution 55/2.

[301] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[302] See E/CN.4/2001/2-E/CN.4/Sub.2/2000/46, chap. II, sect. A.

[303] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Costa Rica, Mexico, South Africa (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and China) and Uruguay.

Against: Denmark, Israel, Japan, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Yugoslavia

56/150. The right to development

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, which expresses, in particular, the determination to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom as well as to employ international mechanisms for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples,

Recalling that the Declaration on the Right to Development, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/128 of 4 December 1986, confirmed that the right to development is an inalienable human right and that equality of opportunity for development is a prerogative both of nations and of individuals who make up nations,

Recalling also that the outcome of the World Conference on Human Rights, held in Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, namely the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[304] reaffirmed the right to development as a universal and inalienable right and an integral part of all fundamental human rights,

Recalling further the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development,[305] and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", held in Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,[306] especially as they relate to the realization of the right to development,

Recalling its resolution 55/279 of 12 July 2001, in which it endorsed the Brussels Declaration[307] and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010[308] adopted by the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Brussels from 14 to 20 May 2001, and in this regard emphasizing the importance of implementation and follow-up to the Brussels commitments,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General,[309] in preparation for the International Conference on Financing for Development to be held in Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002, and expressing its hope that the Conference will set a new partnership for financing sustainable development and for the implementation of the goals set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[310] and other internationally agreed development targets,

Taking note of the three studies prepared by the independent expert on the right to development and his proposed possible approaches to the operationalization of the right to development,

Taking note also of the report of the Open-ended Working Group on the Right to Development established to monitor and review progress made in the promotion and implementation of the right to development[311] and of the Chairperson's conclusions on the issue, as well as the comments submitted thereon,

Welcoming the commitment made by the heads of State and Government in the United Nations Millennium Declaration to make the right to development a reality for everyone and their resolve to create an environment, at the national and global levels alike, which is conducive to development and to the elimination of poverty, and their commitment to spare no effort to promote good governance and democracy and to strengthen the rule of law as well as respect for all universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development,

Underlining the fact that meeting the objectives of good governance also depends on good governance at the international level and on transparency in the financial, monetary and trading systems and an open, equitable, rules-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading and financial system,

Underlining also the fact that the realization of the right to development requires effective development policies at the national level as well as equitable economic relations and a favourable economic environment at the international level,

Underlining further the important role of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the promotion and protection of the right to development,

Recalling the need for coordination and cooperation throughout the United Nations system for a more effective promotion and realization of the right to development,

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[304] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[305] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[306] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

[307] A/CONF.191/12.

[308] A/CONF.191/11.

[309] A/AC.257/12.

[310] See resolution 55/2.

[311] E/CN.4/2001/26.

Taking note of the outcome of the South Summit of the Group of Seventy-seven, held in Havana from 10 to 14 April 2000, relating to the realization of the right to development,[312]

1. *Welcomes* the holding of two sessions of the Open-ended Working Group on the Right to Development from 18 to 22 September 2000 and from 29 January to 2 February 2001, which focused on certain issues, as reflected in the report of the Working Group,[311] and emphasizes the need to continue deliberations on the right to development in all its aspects, inter alia, on the basis of the report of the Working Group and the Chairperson's conclusions, as well as comments submitted thereon;

2. *Emphasizes* that, on the basis of the text of the Declaration on the Right to Development,[313] several resolutions and declarations adopted by consensus at subsequent international conferences and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[304] it should now be possible to reach consensus on the full implementation of the right to development;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the reports of the independent expert on the right to development and his additional work on and clarifications of the "development compact" proposal, which contributed to a better understanding of that proposal, while recognizing that further clarification is still needed;

4. *Recognizes* that any development compact would be of a voluntary nature for all parties involved and that its content would be defined on a case-by-case basis and be adapted to the priorities and realities of any country willing to conclude such a compact, which would need the adherence and the support of all international actors involved in its implementation;

5. *Notes* the request by the Commission on Human Rights that the independent expert clarify further the proposed development compact, taking into consideration views expressed during the two sessions of the Working Group and in broad consultation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and United Nations funds and programmes, as well as the specialized agencies, relevant international and regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and, in particular, those actors and States interested in developing pilot projects in this regard, keeping in mind:

(*a*) The ongoing bilateral, regional and multilateral development cooperation programmes;

(*b*) The formulation of an operational model for a development compact;

(*c*) The views of concerned international organizations and agencies and relevant regional institutions and actors;

(*d*) The need to ensure the added value of a development compact to and its complementarity with the relevant existing mechanisms;

(*e*) The need to address and remedy the national and international dimensions of corruption;

(*f*) The need for country-specific studies from both a national and an international perspective;

6. *Reaffirms* that States have the primary responsibility for the creation of national and international conditions favourable to the realization of the right to development and that they are committed to cooperating with each other to that end;

7. *Also reaffirms* that the realization of the right to development is essential to the implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, which regards all human rights as universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, and which also places the human person at the centre of development and recognizes that, while development facilitates the enjoyment of all human rights, the lack of development may not be invoked to justify the abridgement of internationally recognized human rights;

8. *Recognizes* that, in order to realize the right to development, national action and international cooperation must reinforce each other in a manner that goes beyond the measures for realizing each individual right, and also recognizes that international cooperation for the realization of the right to development should be conducted in the spirit of a partnership, in full respect for all human rights, which are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated;

9. *Also recognizes* that, for many developing countries, the realization of the rights to, inter alia, food, health and education may be important development entry points to the realization of the right to development and that, in this context, the concept of a development compact proposed by the independent expert intends to give expression to some basic tenets of the interdependence of all human rights and national ownership of development strategies and programmes, as well as the importance of international cooperation;

10. *Notes* the ongoing discussion on the question of a suitable permanent follow-up mechanism and the different views expressed thereon in the Working Group, and recognizes the need for a discussion on this issue;

11. *Stresses* the necessity of establishing, at the national level, an enabling legal, political, economic and social environment for the realization of the right to development, and emphasizes the importance of democratic, participatory, transparent and accountable governance, as well as the need for efficient national mechanisms, such as national human rights commissions, to ensure respect for civil, economic, cultural, political and social rights, without any distinction;

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[312] See A/55/74, annexes I and II.

[313] Resolution 41/128, annex.

12. *Also stresses* the need to prevent, address and take effective action against corruption, at both the national and international levels, including by establishing a firm legal structure for eradicating corruption, and urges States to take all necessary measures to that end;

13. *Recognizes* the importance of the role of the State, civil society, free and independent media, national institutions, the private sector and other relevant institutions in the realization of the right to development, and also recognizes the need to continue discussion on this subject;

14. *Affirms* the role of women in the process of the realization of the right to development, including their role as active participants in and beneficiaries of development, and the need for further actions in this context to ensure the participation of women on equal terms with men in all fields in the realization of the right to development;

15. *Also affirms* the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women as effective means to combat poverty, hunger and disease and to stimulate sustainable development, as well as the importance of equal rights and opportunities for women and men, including property rights for women and their access to bank loans, mortgages and other forms of financial credit, taking into account the best practices of microcredit in different parts of the world;

16. *Underlines* the fact that, in the process of the realization of the right to development, special attention should be given to persons belonging to minorities, whether national, ethnic, religious or linguistic, as well as to persons belonging to vulnerable groups, such as elderly people, indigenous people, persons facing discrimination on multiple grounds, Roma, migrants, persons with disabilities and children and persons infected with the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS), and that such attention should have a gender perspective;

17. *Affirms* in this context that attention should also be given to the right to development of children, with special attention to the rights of the girl child;

18. *Acknowledges* the need to continue discussion on the role of civil society in the realization of the right to development and the role of national institutions in this respect;

19. *Reaffirms* the need for States to cooperate with each other in ensuring development and eliminating obstacles to development, recognizes the importance of the international community in promoting effective international cooperation for the realization of the right to development, and also recognizes that lasting progress towards the implementation of the right to development requires effective development policies at the national level, as well as equitable economic relations and a favourable economic environment at the international level;

20. *Reiterates* that the gap between developed and developing countries remains unacceptably wide, that developing countries continue to face difficulties in participating in the globalization process, and that many risk being marginalized and effectively excluded from its benefits;

21. *Recognizes*, while bearing in mind the existing efforts in this respect, that it is necessary to enhance efforts to consider and evaluate the impact on the enjoyment of human rights of international economic and financial issues, such as:

(*a*) International trade issues;

(*b*) Access to technology;

(*c*) Good governance and equity at the international level;

(*d*) Debt burden;

22. *Notes* the request by the Commission on Human Rights that the independent expert prepare, in consultation with all relevant United Nations agencies and the Bretton Woods institutions, a preliminary study on the impact of those issues on the enjoyment of human rights, starting with an analysis of the existing efforts and means of assessing and evaluating that impact, for consideration by the Working Group at its future sessions;

23. *Also notes* the request by the Commission on Human Rights that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the specialized agencies, funds and programmes, the international financial institutions and other relevant actors collaborate with the independent expert in the fulfilment of his mandate, and encourages further cooperation;

24. *Further notes* the request by the Commission on Human Rights that the Working Group and the independent expert consider, as appropriate, the relevant economic and development outcomes of the international conferences, inter alia, the South Summit of the Group of Seventy-seven,[312] and the follow-up thereto, in elaborating their recommendations for the implementation of the right to development;

25. *Decides* to continue consideration of the issue of the right to development, as a matter of priority, at its fifty-seventh session.

RESOLUTION 56/151

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/583/Add.2, para. 109),[314] by a recorded vote of 109 to 53, with 6 abstentions, as follows:

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[314] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, China, Congo, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Haiti, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam and Zambia.

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia

Abstaining: Argentina, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, South Africa

56/151. Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/107 of 4 December 2000, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2001/65 of 25 April 2001,[315]

Reaffirming the commitment of all States to fulfil their obligations to promote universal respect for, and observance and protection of, all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, other instruments relating to human rights and international law,

Affirming that the enhancement of international cooperation for the promotion and protection of all human rights should continue to be carried out in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter and international law as set forth in Articles 1 and 2 of the Charter and, inter alia, with full respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence, the non-use of force or the threat of force in international relations and non-intervention in matters that are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State,

Recalling the Preamble to the Charter, in particular the determination to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small,

Reaffirming that everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[316] can be fully realized,

Reaffirming also the determination expressed in the Preamble to the Charter to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained, to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom, to practise tolerance and good-neighbourliness, and to employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples,

Considering the major changes taking place on the international scene and the aspirations of all peoples for an international order based on the principles enshrined in the Charter, including promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, peace, democracy, justice, equality, the rule of law, pluralism, development, better standards of living and solidarity,

Considering also that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set out therein, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status,

Reaffirming that democracy, development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms are interdependent and mutually reinforcing, and that democracy is based on the freely expressed will of the people to determine their own political, economic, social and cultural systems and their full participation in all aspects of their lives,

Emphasizing that democracy is not only a political concept but that it also has economic and social dimensions,

Recognizing that democracy, respect for all human rights, including the right to development, transparent and accountable governance and administration in all sectors of society, and effective participation by civil society are an essential part of the necessary foundations for the realization of social and people-centred sustainable development,

Underlining the fact that it is imperative for the international community to ensure that globalization becomes a positive force for all the world's people, and that only through broad and sustained efforts, based on common humanity in all its diversity, can globalization be made fully inclusive and equitable,

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[315] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[316] Resolution 217 A (III).

Stressing that efforts to make globalization fully inclusive and equitable must include policies and measures, at the global level, that correspond to the needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition and are formulated and implemented with their effective participation,

Resolved, at the beginning of a new century and millennium, to take all measures within its power to secure a democratic and equitable international order,

1. *Affirms* that everyone is entitled to a democratic and equitable international order;

2. *Also affirms* that a democratic and equitable international order fosters the full realization of all human rights for all;

3. *Further affirms* that a democratic and equitable international order requires, inter alia, the realization of the following:

(*a*) The right of all peoples to self-determination, by virtue of which they can freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development;

(*b*) The right of peoples and nations to permanent sovereignty over their natural wealth and resources;

(*c*) The right of every human person and all peoples to development;

(*d*) The right of all peoples to peace;

(*e*) The promotion of an international economic order based on equal participation in the decision-making process, interdependence, mutual interest, solidarity and cooperation among all States;

(*f*) Solidarity, as a fundamental value, by virtue of which global challenges must be managed in a way that distributes costs and burdens fairly in accordance with basic principles of equity and social justice and ensures that those who suffer or who benefit the least receive help from those who benefit the most;

(*g*) The promotion and consolidation of transparent, democratic, just and accountable international institutions in all areas of cooperation, in particular through the implementation of the principles of full and equal participation in their respective decision-making mechanisms;

(*h*) The principle of equitable regional and gender-balanced representation in the composition of the staff of the United Nations system;

(*i*) The promotion of a free, just, effective and balanced international information and communications order, based on international cooperation for the establishment of a new equilibrium and greater reciprocity in the international flow of information, in particular, correcting the inequalities in the flow of information to and from developing countries;

(*j*) Respect for cultural diversity and the cultural rights of all, since this enhances cultural pluralism, contributes to a wider exchange of knowledge and understanding of cultural backgrounds, advances the application and enjoyment of universally accepted human rights across the world and fosters stable, friendly relations among peoples and nations worldwide;

(*k*) The entitlement of every person and all peoples to a healthy environment;

(*l*) The promotion of equitable access to benefits from the international distribution of wealth through enhanced international cooperation, in particular in economic, commercial and financial international relations;

(*m*) The enjoyment by everyone of ownership of the common heritage of mankind;

(*n*) The shared responsibility of the nations of the world for managing worldwide economic and social development, as well as threats to international peace and security that should be exercised multilaterally;

4. *Stresses* the importance of preserving the rich and diverse nature of the international community of nations and peoples, as well as respect for national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds in the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights;

5. *Also stresses* that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis, and reaffirms that, while the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds must be borne in mind, it is the duty of States, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems, to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

6. *Reaffirms* that all States should promote the establishment, maintenance and strengthening of international peace and security and, to that end, should do their utmost to achieve general and complete disarmament under effective international control, as well as to ensure that the resources released by effective disarmament measures are used for comprehensive development, in particular that of the developing countries;

7. *Recalls* the proclamation by the General Assembly of its determination to work urgently for the establishment of an international economic order based on equity, sovereign equality, interdependence, common interest and cooperation among all States, irrespective of their economic and social systems, which shall correct inequalities and redress existing

injustices, make it possible to eliminate the widening gap between the developed and the developing countries and ensure steadily accelerating economic and social development and peace and justice for present and future generations;[317]

8. *Reaffirms* that the international community should devise ways and means to remove the current obstacles and meet the challenges to the full realization of all human rights and to prevent the continuation of human rights violations resulting therefrom throughout the world;

9. *Urges* States to continue their efforts, through enhanced international cooperation, towards the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order;

10. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights, the human rights treaty bodies, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights and the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights to pay due attention, within their respective mandates, to the present resolution and to make contributions towards its implementation;

11. *Calls upon* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to build upon the issue of the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order and to take into account the present resolution when convening any seminar, workshop or any other activity in relation to the issue of democracy;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of Member States, United Nations organs, bodies and components, intergovernmental organizations, in particular the Bretton Woods institutions, and non-governmental organizations and to disseminate it on the widest possible basis;

13. *Decides* to continue consideration of the matter at its fifty-seventh session under the agenda item entitled "Human rights questions".

RESOLUTION 56/152

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/583/Add.2, para. 109),[318] by a recorded vote of 100 to 54, with 15 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

Against: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia

Abstaining: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Guatemala, Guinea, Madagascar, Malawi, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Singapore, South Africa, Thailand, Uruguay

56/152. Respect for the purposes and principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations to achieve international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms and in solving international problems of a humanitarian character

The General Assembly,

Recalling that, in accordance with Article 56 of the Charter of the United Nations, all Member States have pledged themselves to take joint and separate action in cooperation with the Organization for the achievement of the purposes set forth in Article 55, including universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Recalling also the Preamble to the Charter, in particular the determination to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small,

Reaffirming that the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms must be considered a priority objective of the United Nations in accordance with its purposes and principles, in particular the purpose of international cooperation, and that, within the framework of these purposes and principles, the promotion and protection of all human rights are a legitimate concern of the international community,

Considering the major changes taking place on the international scene and the aspirations of all peoples to an international order based on the principles enshrined in the Charter, including promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, peace, democracy, justice, equality, the rule of law, pluralism, development, better standards of living and solidarity,

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[317] See resolution 3201 (S-VI).

[318] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Angola, Belarus, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, China, Congo, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea, Haiti, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Somalia, Sudan, United Republic of Tanzania and Viet Nam.

Recognizing that the international community should devise ways and means to remove current obstacles and meet the challenges to the full realization of all human rights and to prevent the continuation of human rights violations resulting therefrom throughout the world, as well as continue to pay attention to the importance of mutual cooperation, understanding and dialogue in ensuring the promotion and protection of all human rights,

Reaffirming that the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights is essential for the full achievement of the purposes of the United Nations and that human rights and fundamental freedoms are the birthright of all human beings, the promotion and protection of such rights and freedoms being the first responsibility of Governments,

Reaffirming also that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

Reaffirming further the various articles of the Charter setting out the respective powers and functions of the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council, as the paramount framework for the achievement of the purposes of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the commitment of all States to fulfil their obligations under other important instruments of international law, in particular those of international human rights and humanitarian law,

Taking into account that, in accordance with Article 103 of the Charter, in the event of a conflict between the obligations of the Members of the United Nations under the Charter and their obligations under any other international agreement, their obligations under the Charter shall prevail,

1. *Affirms* the solemn commitment of all States to enhance international cooperation in the field of human rights and in the solution to international problems of a humanitarian character in full compliance with the Charter of the United Nations, inter alia, by the strict observance of all the purposes and principles set forth in Articles 1 and 2 thereof;

2. *Stresses* the vital role of the work of United Nations and regional arrangements, acting consistently with the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter, in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as in solving international problems of a humanitarian character, and affirms that all States, in these activities, must fully comply with the principles set forth in Article 2 of the Charter, in particular respecting the sovereign equality of all States and refraining from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or acting in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations;

3. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations shall promote universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion;

4. *Calls upon* all States to cooperate fully, through constructive dialogue, in order to ensure the promotion and protection of all human rights for all and in promoting peaceful solutions to international problems of a humanitarian character and, in their actions towards that purpose, to comply strictly with the principles and norms of international law, inter alia, by fully respecting international human rights and humanitarian law;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of Member States, organs, bodies and other components of the United Nations system, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and to disseminate it on the widest possible basis;

6. *Decides* to consider this question at its fifty-seventh session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

RESOLUTION 56/153

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/583/Add.2, para. 109)[319]

56/153. Strengthening United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind that among the purposes of the United Nations are those of developing friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples and taking other appropriate measures to strengthen universal peace, as well as achieving international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

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[319] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Bangladesh, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chad, China, Colombia, Congo, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Haiti, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nigeria, Peru, South Africa, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Desirous of achieving further progress in international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Considering that such international cooperation should be based on the principles embodied in international law, especially the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[320] the International Covenants on Human Rights[321] and other relevant instruments,

Deeply convinced that United Nations action in this field should be based not only on a profound understanding of the broad range of problems existing in all societies but also on full respect for the political, economic and social realities of each of them, in strict compliance with the purposes and principles of the Charter and for the basic purpose of promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms through international cooperation,

Recalling its previous resolutions in this regard,

Reaffirming the importance of ensuring the universality, objectivity and non-selectivity of the consideration of human rights issues, as affirmed in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[322]

Affirming the importance of the objectivity, independence and discretion of the special rapporteurs and representatives on thematic issues and on countries, as well as of the members of the working groups, in carrying out their mandates,

Underlining the obligation that Governments have to promote and protect human rights and to carry out the responsibilities that they have undertaken under international law, especially the Charter, as well as various international instruments in the field of human rights,

1. *Reiterates* that, by virtue of the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, all peoples have the right freely to determine, without external interference, their political status and to pursue their economic, social and cultural development, and that every State has the duty to respect that right within the provisions of the Charter, including respect for territorial integrity;

2. *Reaffirms* that it is a purpose of the United Nations and the task of all Member States, in cooperation with the Organization, to promote and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and to remain vigilant with regard to violations of human rights wherever they occur;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States to base their activities for the promotion and protection of human rights, including the development of further international cooperation in this field, on the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[320] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[321] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[321] and other relevant international instruments, and to refrain from activities that are inconsistent with that international framework;

4. *Considers* that international cooperation in this field should make an effective and practical contribution to the urgent task of preventing mass and flagrant violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and to the strengthening of international peace and security;

5. *Reaffirms* that the promotion, protection and full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, as a legitimate concern of the world community, should be guided by the principles of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity and should not be used for political ends;

6. *Requests* all human rights bodies within the United Nations system, as well as the special rapporteurs and representatives, independent experts and working groups, to take duly into account the contents of the present resolution in carrying out their mandates;

7. *Expresses its conviction* that an unbiased and fair approach to human rights issues contributes to the promotion of international cooperation as well as to the effective promotion, protection and realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

8. *Stresses*, in this context, the continuing need for impartial and objective information on the political, economic and social situations and events of all countries;

9. *Invites* Member States to consider adopting, as appropriate, within the framework of their respective legal systems and in accordance with their obligations under international law, especially the Charter, and international human rights instruments, the measures that they may deem appropriate to achieve further progress in international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms;

10. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to take duly into account the present resolution and to consider further proposals for the strengthening of United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity;

11. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[323] and requests the Secretary-General to invite Member States to present practical proposals and ideas that would contribute to the strengthening of United Nations action in the field of human rights, through the promotion of international cooperation based

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[320] Resolution 217 A (III).

[321] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[322] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[323] A/56/292 and Add.1.

on the principles of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity, and to submit a comprehensive report on this question to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

12. *Decides* to consider this matter at its fifty-seventh session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

RESOLUTION 56/154

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/583/Add.2, para. 109),[324] by a recorded vote of 99 to 10, with 59 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

Against: Argentina, Australia, Canada, Chile, Israel, New Zealand, Norway, Samoa, Tuvalu, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Yugoslavia

56/154. Respect for the principles of national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of States in electoral processes as an important element for the promotion and protection of human rights

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the purpose of the United Nations to develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples and to take other appropriate measures to strengthen universal peace,

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Recalling also its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, by which it approved the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the right to self-determination, by virtue of which all peoples can freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development,

Recognizing that the principles enshrined in Article 2 of the Charter of the United Nations, in particular respect for national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of any State, should be respected in the holding of elections,

Recognizing also the richness and diversity of democratic political systems and models of free and fair electoral processes in the world, based on national and regional particularities and various backgrounds,

Stressing the responsibility of States in ensuring ways and means to facilitate full and effective popular participation in their electoral processes,

Recognizing the contribution made by the United Nations of electoral assistance provided to numerous States upon their request,

Reaffirming the solemn commitment of all States to fulfil their obligations to promote universal respect for, and observance and protection of, all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all in accordance with the Charter, other instruments relating to human rights, and international law,

Welcoming the commitment of all Member States, expressed in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[325] to work collectively for more inclusive political processes allowing genuine participation by all citizens in all countries,

1. *Reaffirms* that all peoples have the right to self-determination, by virtue of which they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development, and that every State has the duty to respect that right, in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations;

2. *Reiterates* that periodic, fair and free elections are important elements for the promotion and protection of human rights;

3. *Reaffirms* the right of peoples to determine methods and to establish institutions regarding electoral processes and that, consequently, States should ensure the necessary

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[324] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Cameroon, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Haiti, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Myanmar, Namibia, Pakistan, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania and Viet Nam.

[325] See resolution 55/2.

mechanisms and means to facilitate full and effective popular participation in those processes;

4. *Also reaffirms* that free development of the national electoral process in each State should be fully honoured in a manner that fully respects the principles established in the Charter and in the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;[326]

5. *Further reaffirms* that United Nations electoral assistance is provided at the specific request of the Member State concerned;

6. *Calls upon* all States to refrain from financing political parties or other organizations in any other State in a way that is contrary to the principles of the Charter and that undermines the legitimacy of its electoral processes;

7. *Condemns* any act of armed aggression or threat or use of force against peoples, their elected Governments or their legitimate leaders;

8. *Reaffirms* that the will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government and that this will shall be expressed in periodic and genuine elections, which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret vote or by equivalent free voting procedures.

RESOLUTION 56/155

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/583/Add.2, para. 109),[327] by a recorded vote of 169 to 2, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: Israel, United States of America

Abstaining: Australia, New Zealand

56/155. The right to food

The General Assembly,

Recalling all Commission on Human Rights resolutions in this regard, in particular resolution 2000/10 of 17 April 2000,[328] and taking note of Commission resolution 2001/25 of 20 April 2001,[329]

Recalling also the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[330] which provides that everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for her/his health and well-being, including food,

Recalling further the provisions of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[331] in which the fundamental right of every person to be free from hunger is recognized,

Recalling the Universal Declaration on the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition,[332]

Bearing in mind the Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the Plan of Action of the World Food Summit,[333]

Reaffirming that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated,

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[326] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[327] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[328] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[329] Ibid., *2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[330] Resolution 217 A (III).

[331] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[332] *Report of the World Food Conference, Rome, 5–16 November 1974* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.II.A.3), chap. I.

[333] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the World Food Summit, 13–17 November 1996* (WFS 96/REP), part one, appendix.

Recognizing that the problems of hunger and food insecurity have global dimensions and that they are likely to persist and even to increase dramatically in some regions unless urgent, determined and concerted action is taken, given the anticipated increase in the world's population and the stress on natural resources,

Reaffirming that a peaceful, stable and enabling political, social and economic environment, at both the national and the international level, is the essential foundation which will enable States to give adequate priority to food security and poverty eradication,

Reiterating, as did the Rome Declaration, that food should not be used as an instrument of political or economic pressure, and reaffirming in this regard the importance of international cooperation and solidarity, as well as the necessity of refraining from unilateral measures that are not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations and that endanger food security,

Convinced that each State must adopt a strategy consistent with its resources and capacities to achieve its individual goals in implementing the recommendations contained in the Rome Declaration and Plan of Action of the World Food Summit and, at the same time, cooperate regionally and internationally in order to organize collective solutions to global issues of food security in a world of increasingly interlinked institutions, societies and economies where coordinated efforts and shared responsibilities are essential,

Stressing the importance of reversing the continuing decline of official development assistance devoted to agriculture, both in real terms and as a share of total official development assistance,

1. *Reaffirms* that hunger constitutes an outrage and a violation of human dignity and therefore requires the adoption of urgent measures at the national, regional and international levels for its elimination;

2. *Also reaffirms* the right of everyone to have access to safe and nutritious food, consistent with the right to adequate food and the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger so as to be able fully to develop and maintain their physical and mental capacities;

3. *Considers* it intolerable that 826 million people, most of them women and children, throughout the world and particularly in developing countries, do not have enough food to meet their basic nutritional needs, which infringes upon their fundamental human rights and at the same time can generate additional pressures on the environment in ecologically fragile areas;

4. *Encourages* all States to take steps with a view to achieving progressively the full realization of the right to food, including steps to promote the conditions for everyone to be free from hunger and, as soon as possible, to enjoy fully the right to food, and to elaborate and adopt national plans to combat hunger;

5. *Stresses* the need to make efforts to mobilize and optimize the allocation and utilization of technical and financial resources from all sources, including external debt relief for developing countries, and to reinforce national actions to implement sustainable food security policies;

6. *Urges* States to give adequate priority in their development strategies and expenditures to the realization of the right to food;

7. *Takes note* of the report of the United Nations Children's Fund on early childhood entitled *The State of the World's Children, 2001*,[334] and in this context recalls that the nurturing of young children merits the highest priority;

8. *Takes note with appreciation* of the preliminary report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the right to food,[335] submitted in accordance with Commission resolution 2001/25, and commends the Special Rapporteur for his valuable work in the promotion of the right to food;

9. *Supports* the realization of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur as established by the Commission on Human Rights in its resolutions 2000/10 and 2001/25;

10. *Emphasizes* the request of the Commission on Human Rights to the Special Rapporteur to contribute effectively to the medium-term review of the implementation of the Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the Plan of Action of the World Food Summit[333] by submitting to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights his recommendations on all aspects of the right to food;

11. *Encourages* the Special Rapporteur to mainstream a gender perspective in the activities relating to his mandate;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner to provide all the necessary human and financial resources for the effective fulfilment of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur;

13. *Welcomes* the work already done by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in promoting the right to adequate food, in particular its General Comment No. 12 (1999) on the right to adequate food (article 11 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights), in which the Committee affirmed, inter alia, that the right to adequate food is indivisibly linked to the inherent dignity of the human person and is indispensable for the fulfilment of other human rights enshrined in the International Bill of Human Rights, and is also inseparable from social justice, requiring the adoption of appropriate economic,

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[334] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.01.XX.1.

[335] See A/56/210.

environmental and social policies, at both the national and international levels, oriented to the eradication of poverty and the fulfilment of all human rights for all;[336]

14. *Also welcomes* the convening by the High Commissioner at Bonn, from 12 to 14 March 2001, of the Third Expert Consultation on the Right to Food, with a focus on implementation mechanisms at the country level, hosted by the Government of Germany, and takes note with interest of the report of this meeting;[337]

15. *Supports* the recommendation that the High Commissioner organize a fourth expert consultation on the right to food, with a focus on the realization of this right as part of strategies and policies for the eradication of poverty, inviting experts from all regions;

16. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit a comprehensive report to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-eighth session and an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution;

17. *Invites* Governments, relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, treaty bodies and non-governmental organizations to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur in the fulfilment of his mandate, inter alia, through the submission of comments and suggestions on ways and means of realizing the right to food;

18. *Decides* to continue the consideration of this matter at its fifty-seventh session under the agenda item entitled "Human rights questions".

RESOLUTION 56/156

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/583/Add.2, para. 109)[338]

56/156. Human rights and cultural diversity

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[339] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[340] and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[340] as well as other pertinent human rights instruments,

Recalling also its resolutions 54/160 of 17 December 1999 and 55/91 of 4 December 2000, and recalling further its resolutions 54/113 of 10 December 1999 and 55/23 of 13 November 2000 on the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations,

Noting that numerous instruments within the United Nations system promote cultural diversity, as well as the conservation and development of culture, in particular the Declaration of the Principles of International Culture Cooperation proclaimed on 4 November 1966 by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its fourteenth session,[341]

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[342]

Welcoming the adoption of the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations by its resolution 56/6 of 9 November 2001,

Welcoming also the contribution made through the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held at Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001, to the promotion of respect for cultural diversity,

Welcoming further the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, together with its Action Plan, adopted on 2 November 2001 by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its thirty-first session,[343] in which member States invited the United Nations system and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned to cooperate with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in the promotion of the principles set forth in the Declaration and its Action Plan with a view to enhancing the synergy of actions in favour of cultural diversity,

Reaffirming that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis, and that, while the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds must be borne in mind, it is the duty of States, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems, to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms,

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[336] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 2* and corrigendum (E/2000/22 and Corr.1), annex V, para. 4.

[337] E/CN.4/2001/148.

[338] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chad, China, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Guinea, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Myanmar, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, United Arab Emirates and United Republic of Tanzania.

[339] Resolution 217 A (III).

[340] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[341] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Fourteenth Session, Paris, 1966, Resolutions.*

[342] A/56/204 and Add.1.

[343] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-first Session, Paris, 15 October–3 November 2001*, vol. 1, *Resolutions*, resolution 25, annexes I and II.

Recognizing that cultural diversity and the pursuit of cultural development by all peoples and nations are a source of mutual enrichment for the cultural life of humankind,

Taking into account that a culture of peace actively fosters non-violence and respect for human rights and strengthens solidarity among peoples and nations and dialogue between cultures,

Recognizing that all cultures and civilizations share a common set of universal values,

Considering that tolerance of cultural, ethnic, religious and linguistic diversities, as well as dialogue among and within civilizations, is essential for peace, understanding and friendship among individuals and people of different cultures and nations of the world, while manifestations of cultural prejudice, intolerance and xenophobia towards different cultures and religions generate hatred and violence among peoples and nations throughout the world,

Recognizing in each culture a dignity and value that deserves recognition, respect and preservation, and convinced that, in their rich variety and diversity, and in the reciprocal influences that they exert on one another, all cultures form part of the common heritage belonging to all humankind,

Convinced that the promotion of cultural pluralism and tolerance towards and dialogue among various cultures and civilizations would contribute to the efforts of all peoples and nations to enrich their cultures and traditions by engaging in a mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and intellectual, moral and material achievements,

1. *Affirms* the importance for all peoples and nations to hold, develop and preserve their cultural heritage and traditions in a national and international atmosphere of peace, tolerance and mutual respect;

2. *Welcomes* the United Nations Millennium Declaration of 8 September 2000,[344] which considers, inter alia, that tolerance is one of the fundamental values essential to international relations in the twenty-first century and that it should include the active promotion of a culture of peace and dialogue among civilizations, with human beings respecting one another in all their diversity of belief, culture and language, neither fearing nor repressing differences within and between societies but cherishing them as a precious asset of humanity;

3. *Recognizes* the right of everyone to take part in cultural life and to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its applications;

4. *Affirms* that the international community should strive to respond to the challenges and opportunities posed by globalization in a manner that ensures respect for the cultural diversity of all;

5. *Also affirms* that intercultural dialogue essentially enriches the common understanding of human rights and that the benefits to be derived from the encouragement and development of international contacts and cooperation in the cultural fields are important;

6. *Welcomes* the recognition at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance of the necessity of respecting and maximizing the benefits of diversity within and among all nations in working together to build a harmonious and productive future by putting into practice and promoting values and principles such as justice, equality and non-discrimination, democracy, fairness and friendship, tolerance and respect within and between communities and nations, in particular through public information and education programmes to raise awareness and understanding of the benefits of cultural diversity, including programmes where the public authorities work in partnership with international and non-governmental organizations and other sectors of civil society;

7. *Recognizes* that respect for cultural diversity and the cultural rights of all enhances cultural pluralism, contributing to a wider exchange of knowledge and understanding of cultural background, advancing the application and enjoyment of universally accepted human rights throughout the world and fostering stable friendly relations among peoples and nations worldwide;

8. *Emphasizes* that the promotion of cultural pluralism and tolerance at the national, regional and international levels is important for enhancing respect for cultural rights and cultural diversity;

9. *Also emphasizes* the fact that tolerance and respect for diversity facilitate the universal promotion and protection of human rights, including gender equality and the enjoyment of all human rights by all;

10. *Urges* all actors on the international scene to build an international order based on inclusion, justice, equality and equity, human dignity, mutual understanding and promotion of and respect for cultural diversity and universal human rights, and to reject all doctrines of exclusion based on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

11. *Urges* States to work to ensure that their political and legal systems reflect the multicultural diversity within their societies and, where necessary, to improve democratic institutions so that they are more fully participatory and avoid

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[344] See resolution 55/2.

marginalization and exclusion of, and discrimination against, specific sectors of society;

12. *Calls upon* States, international organizations and United Nations agencies, and invites civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to recognize and promote respect for cultural diversity for the purpose of advancing the objectives of peace, development and universally accepted human rights;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the light of the present resolution, to prepare a report on human rights and cultural diversity, taking into account the views of Member States, relevant United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations, as well as the considerations in the present resolution regarding the recognition and importance of cultural diversity among all peoples and nations in the world, and to submit it to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

14. *Decides* to continue consideration of this question at its fifty-seventh session under the sub-item entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

RESOLUTION 56/157

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/583/Add.2, para. 109)[345]

56/157. Elimination of all forms of religious intolerance

The General Assembly,

Recalling that all States have pledged themselves, under the Charter of the United Nations, to promote and encourage universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Reaffirming that discrimination against human beings on the grounds of religion or belief constitutes an affront to human dignity and a disavowal of the principles of the Charter,

Recalling article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[346] article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[347] and paragraph 4 of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[348]

Reaffirming its resolution 36/55 of 25 November 1981, by which it proclaimed the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief, and noting that 2001 marks the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration,

Emphasizing that the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief is far-reaching and profound and that it encompasses freedom of thought on all matters, personal conviction and the commitment to religion or belief, whether manifested individually or in community with others, and in public or in private,

Reaffirming the call of the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, for all Governments to take all appropriate measures in compliance with their international obligations and with due regard to their respective legal systems to counter intolerance and related violence based on religion or belief, including practices of discrimination against women and the desecration of religious sites, recognizing that every individual has the right to freedom of thought, conscience, expression and religion,[349]

Underlining the important role of education in the promotion of tolerance and the elimination of discrimination based on religion or belief,

Calling upon all States to cooperate with the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on freedom of religion or belief to enable him to carry out his mandate fully,

Alarmed that serious instances of intolerance and discrimination on the grounds of religion or belief, including acts of violence, intimidation and coercion motivated by religious intolerance, occur in many parts of the world and threaten the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Deeply concerned that, as reported by the Special Rapporteur, the rights violated on religious grounds include the right to life, the right to physical integrity and to liberty and security of person, the right to freedom of expression, the right not to be subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and the right not to be arbitrarily arrested or detained,[350]

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[345] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malta, Mauritius, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela.

[346] Resolution 217 A (III).

[347] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[348] See resolution 55/2.

[349] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III, sect. II, para. 22.

[350] See E/CN.4/1994/79, para. 103.

Believing that intensified efforts are therefore required to promote and protect the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief and to eliminate all forms of hatred, intolerance and discrimination based on religion or belief, as also emphasized at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held at Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001,

1. *Reaffirms* that freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief is a human right derived from the inherent dignity of the human person and guaranteed to all without discrimination;

2. *Urges* States to ensure that their constitutional and legal systems provide effective guarantees of freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief, including the provision of effective remedies in cases in which the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief is violated;

3. *Also urges* States to ensure, in particular, that no one within their jurisdiction is, because of their religion or belief, deprived of the right to life or the right to liberty and security of person or subjected to torture or arbitrary arrest or detention;

4. *Further urges* States, in conformity with international standards of human rights, to take all necessary action to combat hatred, intolerance and acts of violence, intimidation and coercion motivated by intolerance based on religion or belief, with particular regard to persons belonging to religious minorities, and to devote particular attention to practices which violate the human rights of women and discriminate against women;

5. *Emphasizes* that, as underlined by the Human Rights Committee, restrictions on the freedom to manifest religion or belief are permitted only if those limitations that are prescribed by law are necessary to protect public safety, order, health or morals, or the fundamental rights and freedoms of others, and are applied in a manner that does not vitiate the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion;

6. *Urges* States to ensure that, in the course of their official duties, members of law enforcement bodies and the military, civil servants, educators and other public officials respect different religions and beliefs and do not discriminate against persons professing other religions or beliefs, and that any necessary and appropriate education or training is provided;

7. *Calls upon* all States to recognize, as provided for in the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,[351] the right of all persons to worship or assemble in connection with a religion or belief and to establish and maintain places for those purposes;

8. *Expresses its grave concern* at any attack upon religious places, sites and shrines, and calls upon all States, in accordance with their national legislation and in conformity with international human rights standards, to exert their utmost efforts to ensure that such places, sites and shrines are fully respected and protected and to take additional measures in cases where they are vulnerable to desecration or destruction;

9. *Recognizes* that legislation alone is not enough to prevent violations of human rights, including the right to freedom of religion or belief, and that the exercise of tolerance and non-discrimination by persons and groups is necessary for the full realization of the aims of the Declaration, and in this regard invites States, religious bodies and civil society to undertake dialogue at all levels to promote greater tolerance, respect and understanding of freedom of religion or belief and to encourage and promote, through the education system and by other means, understanding, tolerance and respect in matters relating to freedom of religion or belief;

10. *Takes note with appreciation* of the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on freedom of religion or belief,[352] and encourages his continued efforts to examine incidents and governmental actions in all parts of the world that are incompatible with the provisions of the Declaration and to recommend remedial measures, as appropriate;

11. *Encourages* Governments to give serious consideration to inviting the Special Rapporteur to visit their countries so as to enable him to fulfil his mandate even more effectively;

12. *Welcomes* the initiatives of Governments and non-governmental organizations to collaborate with the Special Rapporteur, including the convening of the International Consultative Conference on School Education in relation to Freedom of Religion and Belief, Tolerance and Non-discrimination in Madrid from 23 to 25 November 2001, in which Governments, non-governmental organizations and other interested parties were encouraged to participate actively;

13. *Encourages* Governments, when seeking the assistance of the United Nations Programme of Advisory Services and Technical Assistance in the Field of Human Rights, to consider, where appropriate, including requests for assistance in the field of the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion;

14. *Welcomes and encourages* the continuing efforts of non-governmental organizations and religious bodies and groups to promote the implementation and dissemination of the Declaration, and further encourages their work in relation to

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[351] See resolution 36/55.

[352] See A/56/253.

promoting freedom of religion or belief and in highlighting cases of religious intolerance, discrimination and persecution;

15. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to continue its consideration of measures to implement the Declaration;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Special Rapporteur receives the necessary resources to enable him to discharge his mandate;

17. *Decides* to consider the question of the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance at its fifty-seventh session under the item entitled "Human rights questions", and requests the Special Rapporteur to submit an interim report to the General Assembly on the question.

RESOLUTION 56/158

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/583/Add.2, para. 109)[353]

56/158. National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions and those of the Commission on Human Rights concerning national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights,

Welcoming the rapidly growing interest throughout the world in the creation and strengthening of independent, pluralistic national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights,

Convinced of the important role that such national institutions play and will continue to play in promoting and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms and in developing and enhancing public awareness of those rights and freedoms,

Recognizing that the United Nations has played an important role and should continue to play a more important role in assisting the development of national institutions,

Recalling the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[354] which reaffirmed the important and constructive role played by national human rights institutions, in particular in their advisory capacity to the competent authorities and their role in remedying human rights violations, in disseminating information on human rights and in education in human rights,

Recalling also the Beijing Platform for Action,[355] in which Governments were urged to create or strengthen independent national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, including the human rights of women,

Noting the diverse approaches adopted throughout the world for the promotion and protection of human rights at the national level, emphasizing the universality, indivisibility and interdependence of all human rights, and emphasizing and recognizing the value of such approaches in promoting universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Noting with satisfaction the constructive participation of representatives of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights in, and their positive contribution to, the deliberations of the World Conference on Human Rights, the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and the Commission on Human Rights, as well as international seminars and workshops on human rights organized or sponsored by the United Nations,

Welcoming the strengthening in all regions of regional cooperation among national human rights institutions and between national human rights institutions and other regional human rights forums,

Welcoming also the strengthening of international cooperation among national human rights institutions, including through the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;[356]

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of the development of effective, independent and pluralistic national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, in keeping with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 48/134 of 20 December 1993;

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[353] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela and Zambia.

[354] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[355] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[356] A/56/255.

3. *Recognizes* that, in accordance with the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[354] it is the right of each State to choose the framework for the national institutions that is best suited to its particular needs at the national level in order to promote human rights in accordance with international human rights standards;

4. *Encourages* Member States to establish or, where they already exist, to strengthen national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, as outlined in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;

5. *Welcomes* the growing number of States establishing or considering the establishment of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights;

6. *Encourages* national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights established by Member States to continue to play an active role in preventing and combating all violations of human rights as enumerated in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action and relevant international instruments;

7. *Notes with satisfaction* the efforts of those States that have provided their national institutions with more autonomy and independence, including by giving them an investigative role or enhancing such a role, and encourages other Governments to consider taking similar steps;

8. *Reaffirms* the role of national institutions, where they exist, as appropriate agencies, inter alia, for the dissemination of human rights materials and other public information activities, including those of the United Nations, in particular in the context of the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995–2004;

9. *Urges* the Secretary-General to continue to give high priority to requests from Member States for assistance in the establishment and strengthening of national human rights institutions as part of the United Nations Programme of Advisory Services and Technical Assistance in the Field of Human Rights;

10. *Commends* the high priority given by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to work on national institutions, and, in view of the expanded activities relating to national institutions, encourages the High Commissioner to ensure that appropriate arrangements are made and budgetary resources provided to continue and further extend activities in support of national human rights institutions, and invites Governments to contribute additional, earmarked funds to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights for that purpose;

11. *Notes with appreciation* the increasingly active and important role of the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions, as recognized in Commission on Human Rights resolution 1994/54 of 4 March 1994,[357] in close cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner, in assisting Governments and national institutions, when requested, to follow up on relevant resolutions and recommendations concerning the strengthening of national institutions;

12. *Also notes with appreciation* the holding of regular meetings of the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions and the arrangements for the participation of national human rights institutions in the annual sessions of the Commission on Human Rights;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the necessary assistance for holding meetings of the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions during the sessions of the Commission on Human Rights, in cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner;

14. *Welcomes* the continuation of the practice of national institutions convening regional meetings in some regions, and its initiation in others, and encourages national institutions, in cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, to organize similar events with Governments and non-governmental organizations in their own regions;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide, including from the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights, the necessary assistance for holding international and regional meetings of national institutions;

16. *Recognizes* the important and constructive role that non-governmental organizations may play, in cooperation with national institutions, for better promotion and protection of human rights;

17. *Encourages* all Member States to take appropriate steps to promote the exchange of information and experience concerning the establishment and effective operation of national institutions;

18. *Encourages* all United Nations entities, funds and agencies to work in close cooperation with national institutions in the promotion and protection of human rights;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[357] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1994, Supplement No. 4* and corrigendum (E/1994/24 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

RESOLUTION 56/159

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/583/Add.2, para. 109),[358] by a recorded vote of 162 to none, with 8 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: none

Abstaining: Brunei Darussalam, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Myanmar, Syrian Arab Republic, Viet Nam

56/159. Strengthening the role of the United Nations in enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections and the promotion of democratization

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject, in particular resolution 54/173 of 17 December 1999,

Reaffirming that United Nations electoral assistance and support for the promotion of democratization are provided only at the specific request of the Member State concerned,

Noting with satisfaction that increasing numbers of Member States are using elections as peaceful means of discerning the will of the people and of confidence-building, thereby contributing to greater national peace and stability,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted on 10 December 1948,[359] in particular the principle that the will of the people as expressed through periodic and genuine elections shall be the basis of government authority, as well as the right freely to choose representatives through periodic and genuine elections which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret vote or by equivalent free voting procedures,

Taking note with interest of Commission on Human Rights resolutions 2001/41 of 23 April 2001 and 2001/72 of 25 April 2001,[360]

Recognizing the need for strengthening democratic processes, electoral institutions and national capacity-building, including the capacity to administer fair elections, increase citizen participation and provide civic education, in requesting countries in order to consolidate and regularize the achievements of previous elections and support subsequent elections,

Welcoming the support provided by States to the electoral assistance activities of the United Nations, inter alia, through the provision of electoral experts, including electoral commission staff, and observers, as well as through contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for Electoral Observation,

Welcoming also the contributions made by international and regional organizations and also by non-governmental organizations to enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections and the promotion of democratization,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on United Nations activities aimed at enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections,[361]

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;[361]

2. *Commends* the electoral assistance provided upon request to Member States by the United Nations, and requests that such assistance continue on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the evolving needs of requesting countries to develop, improve and refine their electoral institutions and

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[358] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela and Zambia.

[359] Resolution 217 A (III).

[360] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[361] A/56/344.

processes, recognizing that the fundamental responsibility of organizing free and fair elections lies with Governments;

3. *Requests* the Electoral Assistance Division of the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, in its role as coordinator of United Nations electoral assistance, to continue to inform Member States regularly about the requests received and the nature of any assistance provided;

4. *Requests* that the United Nations continue its efforts to ensure, before undertaking to provide electoral assistance to a requesting State, that there is adequate time to organize and carry out an effective mission for providing such assistance, including the provision of long-term technical cooperation, that conditions exist to allow free and fair elections and that the results of the mission will be reported comprehensively and consistently;

5. *Recommends* that, throughout the entire electoral process time-span, including before and after elections, as appropriate, based on needs assessment missions, the United Nations continue to provide technical advice and other assistance to requesting States and electoral institutions in order to help to strengthen their democratic processes;

6. *Notes with satisfaction* the comprehensive coordination between the Electoral Assistance Division and the United Nations Development Programme, and encourages further engagement of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in this context;

7. *Requests* the United Nations Development Programme to continue its governance assistance programmes in cooperation with other relevant organizations, in particular those that strengthen democratic institutions and linkages between civil society and Governments;

8. *Reiterates* the importance of reinforced coordination within and outside the United Nations system in this regard;

9. *Notes with appreciation* additional efforts being made to enhance cooperation with other international, governmental and non-governmental organizations in order to facilitate more comprehensive and needs-specific responses to requests for electoral assistance, and expresses its appreciation to those Member States, regional organizations and non-governmental organizations that have provided observers or technical experts in support of United Nations electoral assistance efforts;

10. *Recalls* the establishment by the Secretary-General of the United Nations Trust Fund for Electoral Observation, and calls upon Member States to consider contributing to the Fund;

11. *Encourages* the Secretary-General, through the Electoral Assistance Division, to continue responding to the evolving nature of requests for assistance and the growing need for specific types of medium-term expert assistance aimed at supporting and strengthening the existing capacity of the requesting Government, in particular by enhancing the capacity of national electoral institutions;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Electoral Assistance Division with adequate human and financial resources to allow it to carry out its mandate and to continue to ensure that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights is able to respond, within its mandate and in close coordination with the Division, to the numerous and increasingly complex and comprehensive requests from Member States for advisory services;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution, in particular on the status of requests from Member States for electoral assistance, and on his efforts to enhance the support by the Organization for the democratization process in Member States.

RESOLUTION 56/160

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/583/Add.2, para. 109),[362] by a recorded vote of 102 to none, with 69 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Yemen

Against: none

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Kingdom of

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[362] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Azerbaijan, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Georgia, Guatemala, India, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritania, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname and Turkey.

Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zambia

56/160. Human rights and terrorism

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[363] the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations[364] and the International Covenants on Human Rights,[365]

Recalling the Declaration on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations,[366] as well as the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism,[367]

Recalling also the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[368] in which the Conference reaffirmed that the acts, methods and practices of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, as well as its linkage in some countries to drug trafficking, are activities aimed at the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and democracy, threatening territorial integrity and the security of States and destabilizing legitimately constituted Governments, and that the international community should take the necessary steps to enhance cooperation to prevent and combat terrorism,

Recalling further the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted by the General Assembly,[369]

Recalling its resolutions 48/122 of 20 December 1993, 49/185 of 23 December 1994, 50/186 of 22 December 1995, 52/133 of 12 December 1997 and 54/164 of 17 December 1999,

Recalling in particular that, in its resolution 52/133, it requested the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the implications of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations for the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recalling previous resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights, and taking note in particular of Commission resolution 2001/37 of 23 April 2001,[370] as well as the relevant resolutions of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, in particular its resolution 2001/18, adopted unanimously on 16 August 2001,[371]

Bearing in mind all other relevant General Assembly resolutions,

Bearing in mind also relevant Security Council resolutions,

Aware that, at the dawn of the twenty-first century, the world is witness to historic and far-reaching transformations, in the course of which forces of aggressive nationalism and religious and ethnic extremism continue to produce fresh challenges,

Alarmed that acts of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations aimed at the destruction of human rights have continued despite national and international efforts,

Bearing in mind that the right to life is the basic human right, without which a human being can exercise no other right,

Bearing in mind also that terrorism creates an environment that destroys the right of people to live in freedom from fear,

Reiterating that all States have an obligation to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms and that every individual should strive to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance,

Seriously concerned about the gross violations of human rights perpetrated by terrorist groups,

Profoundly deploring the increasing number of innocent persons, including women, children and the elderly, killed, massacred and maimed by terrorists in indiscriminate and random acts of violence and terror, which cannot be justified under any circumstances,

Expressing its deepest sympathy and condolences to all the victims of terrorism and their families,

Noting with great concern the growing connection between terrorist groups and other criminal organizations engaged in the illegal traffic in arms and drugs at the national and international levels, as well as the consequent commission of serious crimes such as murder, extortion, kidnapping, assault, the taking of hostages and robbery,

Alarmed in particular at the possibility that terrorist groups may exploit new technologies to facilitate acts of terrorism, which may cause massive damage, including huge loss of human life,

Emphasizing the need to intensify the fight against terrorism at the national level, to enhance effective international cooperation in combating terrorism in conformity with international law and to strengthen the role of the United Nations in this respect,

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[363] Resolution 217 A (III).

[364] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[365] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[366] See resolution 50/6.

[367] Resolution 49/60, annex.

[368] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[369] See resolution 55/2.

[370] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[371] See E/CN.4/2002/2-E/CN.4/Sub.2/2001/40, chap. II, sect. A.

Emphasizing also the importance of Member States taking appropriate steps to deny safe haven to those who plan, finance or commit terrorist acts by ensuring their apprehension and prosecution or extradition,

Reaffirming that all measures to counter terrorism must be in strict conformity with the relevant provisions of international law, including international human rights standards,

Mindful of the need to protect the human rights of and guarantees for the individual in accordance with the relevant human rights principles and instruments, in particular the right to life,

Noting the growing consciousness within the international community of the negative effects of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations on the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms and on the establishment of the rule of law and democratic freedoms as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the International Covenants on Human Rights,

1. *Expresses its solidarity* with the victims of terrorism;

2. *Strongly condemns* the violations of the right to live free from fear and of the right to life, liberty and security;

3. *Reiterates its unequivocal condemnation* of the acts, methods and practices of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations as activities aimed at the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and democracy, threatening the territorial integrity and security of States, destabilizing legitimately constituted Governments, undermining pluralistic civil society and having adverse consequences for the economic and social development of States;

4. *Reaffirms* the decision of the heads of State and Government, as contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[369] to take concerted action against international terrorism and to accede as soon as possible to all the relevant regional and international conventions;

5. *Urges* the international community to enhance cooperation at the regional and international levels in the fight against terrorism, in accordance with relevant international instruments, including those relating to human rights, with the aim of its eradication;

6. *Calls upon* States to take all necessary and effective measures, in accordance with relevant provisions of international law, including international human rights standards, to prevent, combat and eliminate terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomever it is committed, and also calls upon States to strengthen, where appropriate, their legislation to combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations;

7. *Urges* all States to deny safe haven to terrorists;

8. *Calls upon* States to take appropriate measures, in conformity with relevant provisions of national and international law, including international human rights standards, before granting refugee status, for the purpose of ensuring that an asylum-seeker has not planned, facilitated or participated in the commission of terrorist acts, including assassinations, and in this context urges those States that have granted refugee status or asylum to persons involved in or claiming to have committed acts of terrorism to review these situations;

9. *Condemns* the incitement to ethnic hatred, violence and terrorism;

10. *Commends* those Governments that have communicated their views on the implications of terrorism in response to the notes verbales by the Secretary-General dated 16 August 1999 and 4 September 2000;

11. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General,[372] and requests him to continue to seek the views of Member States on the implications of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations for the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms and on the possible establishment of a voluntary fund for the victims of terrorism, as well as on ways and means to rehabilitate the victims of terrorism and to reintegrate them into society, with a view to incorporating his findings in his report to the General Assembly;

12. *Decides* to consider this question at its fifty-eighth session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

RESOLUTION 56/161

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/583/Add.2, para. 109)[373]

56/161. Human rights in the administration of justice

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the principles embodied in articles 3, 5, 8, 9 and 10 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[374] and the relevant provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocols thereto,[375] in particular article 6 of the Covenant, which states, inter alia, that no one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his life and prohibits the imposition of the death penalty for crimes committed by persons below 18 years of age, and article 10, which provides that all persons deprived of their liberty shall be treated with humanity and with respect for the inherent dignity of the human person,

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[372] A/56/190.

[373] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Yugoslavia.

[374] Resolution 217 A (III).

Bearing in mind also the relevant provisions of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[376] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[377] in particular the right to equal treatment before the tribunals and all other organs administering justice, the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[378] in particular article 37, according to which every child deprived of liberty shall be treated in a manner which takes into account the needs of persons of his or her age, and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[379] in particular the obligation to treat men and women equally in all stages of procedures in courts and tribunals,

Calling attention to the numerous international standards in the field of the administration of justice,

Emphasizing that the right to access to justice as contained in applicable international human rights instruments forms an important basis for strengthening the rule of law through the administration of justice,

Mindful of the importance of ensuring respect for the rule of law and human rights in the administration of justice, in particular in post-conflict situations, as a crucial contribution to building peace and justice and ending impunity,

Recalling the Guidelines for Action on Children in the Criminal Justice System[380] and the establishment and subsequent meetings of the coordination panel on technical advice and assistance in juvenile justice,

Calling attention to the relevant provisions of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century,[381] and of the plans of action for its implementation and follow-up,[382]

Recalling its resolution 54/163 of 17 December 1999, as well as Commission on Human Rights resolution 2000/39 of 20 April 2000[383] and Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/28 of 28 July 1999,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of the full and effective implementation of all United Nations standards on human rights in the administration of justice;

2. *Reiterates its call* to all Member States to spare no effort in providing for effective legislative and other mechanisms and procedures, as well as adequate resources, to ensure the full implementation of those standards;

3. *Invites* Governments to provide training, including gender-sensitive training, in human rights in the administration of justice, including juvenile justice, to all judges, lawyers, prosecutors, social workers, immigration and police officers, and other professionals concerned, including personnel deployed in international field presences;

4. *Invites* States to make use of technical assistance offered by the relevant United Nations programmes in order to strengthen national capacities and infrastructures in the field of the administration of justice;

5. *Appeals* to Governments to include in their national development plans the administration of justice as an integral part of the development process and to allocate adequate resources for the provision of legal-aid services with a view to promoting and protecting human rights, and invites the international community to respond favourably to requests for financial and technical assistance for the enhancement and strengthening of the administration of justice;

6. *Encourages* the regional commissions, the specialized agencies and United Nations institutes in the areas of human rights and crime prevention and criminal justice, and other relevant parts of the United Nations system, as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, including national professional associations concerned with promoting United Nations standards in this field, and other segments of civil society, including the media, to continue to develop their activities in promoting human rights in the administration of justice;

7. *Invites* the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as well as the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat, to coordinate closely their activities relating to the administration of justice;

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[375] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex, and resolution 44/128, annex.

[376] Resolution 39/46, annex.

[377] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[378] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[379] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[380] Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/30, annex.

[381] Resolution 55/59, annex.

[382] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 10* (E/2001/30/Rev.1), part two, chap. I.

[383] Ibid., *2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

8. *Calls upon* mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights and its subsidiary bodies, including special rapporteurs, special representatives and working groups, to continue to give special attention to questions relating to the effective promotion and protection of human rights in the administration of justice, including juvenile justice, and to provide, where appropriate, specific recommendations in this regard, including proposals for advisory services and technical assistance measures;

9. *Calls upon* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to reinforce, within her mandate, her activities relating to national capacity-building in the field of the administration of justice, in particular in post-conflict situations;

10. *Encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner to continue organizing training courses and other relevant activities aimed at enhancing the promotion and protection of human rights in the field of the administration of justice, and commends the Office for its work on the development of a human rights manual for judges, prosecutors and lawyers within the framework of the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995–2004;

11. *Welcomes* the increased attention paid to the issue of juvenile justice by the High Commissioner, in particular through technical assistance activities, and, taking into account that international cooperation to promote juvenile justice reform has become a priority within the United Nations system, encourages further activities, within her mandate, in this regard;

12. *Calls upon* the coordination panel on technical advice and assistance in juvenile justice further to increase cooperation among the partners involved, to share information and to pool their capacities and interests in order to increase the effectiveness of programme implementation;

13. *Underlines* the importance of rebuilding and strengthening structures for the administration of justice and respect for the rule of law and human rights in post-conflict situations, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure system-wide coordination and coherence of programmes and activities of the relevant parts of the United Nations system in the field of the administration of justice in post-conflict situations, including assistance provided through United Nations field presences;

14. *Stresses* the special need for national capacity-building in the field of the administration of justice, in particular through reform of the judiciary, the police and the penal system, as well as juvenile justice reform, in order to establish and maintain stable societies and the rule of law in post-conflict situations, and in this context welcomes the role of the Office of the High Commissioner in supporting the establishment and functioning of transitional justice mechanisms in post-conflict situations;

15. *Decides* to consider the question of human rights in the administration of justice at its fifty-eighth session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

RESOLUTION 56/162

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/583/Add.2, para. 109)[384]

56/162. Effective promotion of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 47/135 of 18 December 1992, as well as its subsequent resolutions on the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities,

Considering that the promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities contribute to political and social stability and peace and enrich the cultural diversity and heritage of society as a whole in the States in which such persons live,

Concerned by the frequency and severity of disputes and conflicts concerning minorities in many countries and their often tragic consequences, and concerned also that persons belonging to minorities are particularly vulnerable to displacement through, inter alia, population transfers, refugee flows and forced relocation,

Recognizing that the effective promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to minorities is a fundamental part of the promotion and protection of human rights, and acknowledging that measures in this area can also contribute significantly to conflict prevention,

Emphasizing the importance of human rights education as an effective tool to promote an inclusive society and understanding of and tolerance towards and among persons belonging to minorities,

Acknowledging that the United Nations has an important role to play regarding the protection of minorities by, inter alia, taking due account of and giving effect to the Declaration,

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[384] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Finland, Georgia, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mauritius, Monaco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Yugoslavia.

Noting that the Working Group on Minorities of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights held its sixth and seventh sessions from 22 to 26 May 2000[385] and 14 to 18 May 2001,[386] respectively,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[387]

2. *Recognizes* that respect for human rights and the promotion of understanding and tolerance by Governments as well as between and among minorities are central to the promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to minorities;

3. *Reaffirms* the obligation of States to ensure that persons belonging to minorities may exercise fully and effectively all human rights and fundamental freedoms without any discrimination and in full equality before the law, in accordance with the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities,[388] and as emphasized at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held at Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001;

4. *Urges* States and the international community to promote and protect the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, as set out in the Declaration, including through the provision of adequate education and the facilitation of their participation in all aspects of the political, economic, social, religious and cultural life of society and in the economic progress and development of their country, and to apply a gender perspective while doing so;

5. *Calls upon* States to give special attention to the promotion and protection of the human rights of children, girls as well as boys, belonging to minorities;

6. *Urges* States to take, as appropriate, all necessary constitutional, legislative, administrative and other measures to promote and give effect to the Declaration, and appeals to States to cooperate bilaterally and multilaterally, in accordance with the Declaration, in order to promote and protect the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities;

7. *Calls upon* States to take all appropriate measures to protect the cultural and religious sites of national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities;

8. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to make available, at the request of Governments concerned, qualified expertise on minority issues, including the prevention and resolution of disputes, to assist in existing or potential situations involving minorities;

9. *Calls upon* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to promote, within her mandate, the implementation of the Declaration and to continue to engage in a dialogue with Governments for that purpose, and in this regard draws attention to the work on the United Nations Guide for Minorities;

10. *Requests* the High Commissioner to continue her efforts to improve the coordination and cooperation among United Nations programmes and agencies on activities related to the promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to minorities and to take the work of relevant regional organizations active in the field of human rights into account in her endeavours;

11. *Welcomes* the inter-agency consultation of the High Commissioner with United Nations programmes and agencies on minority issues, and calls upon those programmes and agencies to contribute actively to this process;

12. *Invites* the human rights treaty bodies, when considering reports submitted by States parties, as well as the reports of special representatives, special rapporteurs and working groups of the Commission on Human Rights, to continue to give attention, within their respective mandates, to situations and rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities;

13. *Encourages* intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to continue to contribute to the promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities;

14. *Calls upon* the Working Group on Minorities of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights to implement further its mandate with the involvement of a wide range of participants;

15. *Invites* the High Commissioner to seek voluntary contributions to facilitate the effective participation, including through training seminars, in the work of the Working Group on Minorities of representatives of non-governmental organizations and persons belonging to minorities, in particular those from developing countries;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution, and to continue to include examples of good practices in the field of education and of the effective participation of minorities in decision-making processes;

17. *Decides* to continue consideration of this question at its fifty-eighth session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

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[385] E/CN.4/Sub.2/2000/27 and Corr.1.

[386] E/CN.4/Sub.2/2001/22.

[387] A/56/258.

[388] Resolution 47/135, annex.

RESOLUTION 56/163

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/583/Add.2, para. 109)[389]

56/163. Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/144 of 9 December 1998, by which it adopted by consensus the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms,

Reiterating the importance of the Declaration and its promotion and implementation,

Noting with deep concern that, in many countries, persons and organizations engaged in promoting and defending human rights and fundamental freedoms are facing threats, harassment and insecurity as a result of those activities,

Noting also with deep concern the considerable number of communications received by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on human rights defenders that, together with the reports submitted by some of the special procedure mechanisms, indicate the serious nature of the risks faced by human rights defenders,

Noting further with deep concern that, in a number of countries in all regions of the world, impunity for threats, attacks and acts of intimidation against human rights defenders persists and that this has a negative impact on the work and safety of human rights defenders,

Emphasizing the important role that individuals, non-governmental organizations and groups play in the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including in combating impunity,

Welcoming the cooperation between the Special Representative and other special procedures of the Commission on Human Rights,

Recalling that the primary responsibility for promoting and protecting human rights rests with the State, and noting with deep concern that the activities of non-State actors pose a major threat to the security of human rights defenders,

Emphasizing the need for strong and effective measures for the protection of human rights defenders,

1. *Calls upon* all States to promote and give full effect to the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms;[390]

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the reports of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on human rights defenders;[391]

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of combating impunity, and in this regard urges States to take appropriate measures to address the question of impunity for threats, attacks and acts of intimidation against human rights defenders;

4. *Urges* all Governments to cooperate with and assist the Special Representative in the performance of her tasks and to furnish upon request all information in the fulfilment of her mandate;

5. *Requests* all concerned United Nations agencies and organizations, within their mandates, to provide all possible assistance and support to the Special Representative in the implementation of her programme of activities;

6. *Calls upon* all States to take all necessary measures to ensure the protection of human rights defenders;

7. *Decides* to consider this question at its fifty-seventh session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

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[389] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela and Yugoslavia.

[390] Resolution 53/144, annex.

[391] A/56/341 and E/CN.4/2001/94.

RESOLUTION 56/164

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/583/Add.2, para. 109)[392]

56/164. Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons

The General Assembly,

Deeply disturbed by the alarmingly high numbers of internally displaced persons throughout the world who receive inadequate protection and assistance, and conscious of the serious problem that this is creating for the international community,

Conscious of the human rights and the humanitarian dimensions of the problem of internally displaced persons and the responsibilities that this poses for States and the international community to explore methods and means better to address the protection and assistance needs of those persons,

Noting the growing awareness of the international community of the issue of internally displaced persons worldwide and the urgency of addressing the root causes of their displacement and finding durable solutions, including voluntary return in safety and with dignity or local integration,

Emphasizing that national authorities have the primary responsibility to provide protection and assistance to internally displaced persons within their jurisdiction as well as to address the root causes for the displacement problem in cooperation with the international community,

Recalling the relevant norms of international human rights law, international humanitarian law and analogous refugee law, and recognizing that the protection of internally displaced persons has been strengthened by identifying, reaffirming and consolidating specific standards for their protection, in particular through the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement,[393]

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2001/54 of 24 April 2001,[394] and recalling the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[395] regarding the need to develop global strategies to address the problem of internal displacement,

Deploring practices of forced displacement and their negative consequences for the enjoyment of fundamental human rights by large groups of populations,

Noting with appreciation the work of the Representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons in developing a normative framework, in particular a compilation and analysis of legal norms and the development of guiding principles, analysing institutional arrangements, undertaking dialogue with Governments and issuing a series of reports on particular country situations together with proposals for remedial measures,

Welcoming the cooperation established between the Representative of the Secretary-General and the United Nations and other international and regional organizations, in particular the participation of the Representative of the Secretary-General in the meetings of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and its subsidiary bodies, and encouraging further strengthening of this collaboration in order to promote better protection, assistance and development strategies for internally displaced persons,

Recognizing the central role of the Emergency Relief Coordinator for the inter-agency coordination of protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons, and in this regard welcoming the establishment of the Senior Inter-Agency Network on Internal Displacement and the decision to set up within the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat a unit for coordinating activities regarding internally displaced persons in order to promote better protection, assistance and development strategies for internally displaced persons, as well as to enhance further accountability by the United Nations system,

Acknowledging with appreciation the independent coordination within, as well as the independent work of, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and other humanitarian agencies in protecting and assisting internally displaced persons in cooperation with relevant international bodies,

Recalling its resolution 54/167 of 17 December 1999,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons;[396]

2. *Commends* the Representative of the Secretary-General for the activities undertaken so far, for the catalytic role that he continues to play in raising the level of consciousness

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[392] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Burundi, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Monaco, Mozambique, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Yugoslavia.

[393] E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

[394] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[395] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[396] See A/56/168.

about the plight of internally displaced persons and for his efforts to promote a comprehensive strategy that focuses on prevention as well as better protection, assistance and development for internally displaced persons;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations that have provided protection and assistance to internally displaced persons and have supported the work of the Representative of the Secretary-General;

4. *Encourages* the Representative of the Secretary-General, through continuous dialogue with Governments and all intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, to continue his analysis of the causes of internal displacement, the needs and rights of those displaced, measures of prevention and ways to strengthen protection, assistance and solutions for internally displaced persons, taking into account specific situations, and to include information thereon in his reports to the Commission on Human Rights and the General Assembly;

5. *Welcomes* the specific attention paid by the Representative of the Secretary-General to the special protection, assistance and development needs of internally displaced women, children and other groups with specific needs and his commitment to pay more systematic and in-depth attention to their needs;

6. *Also welcomes* the fact that the Representative of the Secretary-General has made use of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement[393] in his dialogue with Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and requests him to continue his efforts in that regard, including considering strategies for addressing such concerns;

7. *Notes with appreciation* that an increasing number of States, United Nations agencies and regional and non-governmental organizations are making use of the Guiding Principles, encourages the further dissemination and application of the Guiding Principles, expresses its appreciation for the dissemination and promotion of the Guiding Principles at regional and other seminars on displacement, and encourages the Representative of the Secretary-General to continue to initiate or support such seminars in consultation with regional organizations, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other relevant institutions, and to provide support for efforts to promote capacity-building and use of the Guiding Principles;

8. *Calls upon* all Governments to continue to facilitate the activities of the Representative of the Secretary-General, in particular Governments with situations of internal displacement, encourages them to give serious consideration to inviting the Representative to visit their countries so as to enable him to study and analyse more fully the issues involved, and thanks those Governments that have already done so;

9. *Invites* Governments to give due consideration, in dialogue with the Representative of the Secretary-General, to the recommendations and suggestions addressed to them, in accordance with his mandate, and to inform him of measures taken thereon;

10. *Calls upon* Governments to provide protection and assistance, including reintegration and development assistance, to internally displaced persons, and to facilitate the efforts of relevant United Nations agencies and humanitarian organizations in these respects, including by further improving access to internally displaced persons;

11. *Notes with appreciation* the increased attention paid to the issue of internally displaced persons in the consolidated inter-agency appeals process, and encourages further efforts to improve the integration of the protection and assistance needs of internally displaced persons in consolidated appeals;

12. *Emphasizes* the central role of the Emergency Relief Coordinator for the inter-agency coordination of protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons, and in this regard urges the Senior Inter-Agency Network on Internal Displacement and all relevant United Nations humanitarian assistance, human rights and development organizations concerned to enhance further their collaboration and coordination, especially through the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, in order to promote and better carry out protection, assistance and development activities for internally displaced persons and to enhance further their accountability, as well as to provide all possible assistance and support to the Representative of the Secretary-General, and invites the Network better to inform Member States of its activities;

13. *Welcomes* the initiatives undertaken by regional organizations, such as the Organization of African Unity, the Organization of American States, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Council of Europe and the Economic Community of West African States, to address the protection, assistance and development needs of internally displaced persons, and encourages them and other regional organizations to strengthen their activities and their cooperation with the Representative of the Secretary-General;

14. *Notes* the establishment of the global internally displaced persons database, as advocated by the Representative of the Secretary-General, and encourages the members of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and Governments to continue to collaborate on and support this effort, including by providing financial resources;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide his Representative, from within existing resources, with all necessary assistance to carry out his mandate effectively, and encourages the Representative to continue to seek the contribution of States, relevant organizations and institutions in order to put the work of the Representative on a more stable basis;

16. *Requests* the Representative of the Secretary-General to prepare, for consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

17. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question of protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons at its fifty-eighth session.

RESOLUTION 56/165

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/583/Add.2, para. 109),[397] by a recorded vote of 116 to 46, with 9 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia

Abstaining: Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Guatemala, Micronesia (Federated States of), Peru, Republic of Korea, Singapore, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

56/165. Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and expressing in particular the need to achieve international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[398] as well as the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[399]

Recalling also the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[400] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[400]

Recalling further the Declaration on the Right to Development adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/128 of 4 December 1986,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration[401] and the outcome documents of the twenty-third[402] and twenty-fourth[403] special sessions of the General Assembly, held, respectively, in New York from 5 to 10 June 2000 and Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,

Recalling also its resolution 55/102 of 4 December 2000,

Recognizing that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

Realizing that globalization affects all countries differently and makes them more exposed to external developments, positive as well as negative, including in the field of human rights,

Realizing also that globalization is not merely an economic process but that it also has social, political, environmental, cultural and legal dimensions which have an impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights,

Recognizing that multilateral mechanisms have a unique role to play in meeting the challenges and opportunities presented by globalization,

Expressing concern at the negative impact of international financial turbulence on social and economic development and on the full enjoyment of all human rights,

Deeply concerned that the widening gap between the developed and the developing countries, and within countries, has contributed, inter alia, to deepening poverty and has adversely affected the full enjoyment of all human rights, in particular in developing countries,

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[397] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guyana, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kenya, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Saint Lucia, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam and Zambia.

[398] Resolution 217 A (III).

[399] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[400] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[401] See resolution 55/2.

[402] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[403] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

Noting that human beings strive for a world that is respectful of human rights and cultural diversity and that, in this regard, they work to ensure that all activities, including those affected by globalization, are consistent with those aims,

1. *Recognizes* that, while globalization, by its impact on, inter alia, the role of the State, may affect human rights, the promotion and protection of all human rights is first and foremost the responsibility of the State;

2. *Reaffirms* that narrowing the gap between rich and poor, both within and between countries, is an explicit goal at the national and international levels, as part of the effort to create an enabling environment for the full enjoyment of all human rights;

3. *Also reaffirms* the commitment to create an environment at both the national and the global level that is conducive to development and to the elimination of poverty through, inter alia, good governance within each country and at the international level, transparency in the financial, monetary and trading systems and commitment to an open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading and financial system;

4. *Recognizes* that, while globalization offers great opportunities, its benefits are very unevenly shared and its costs are unevenly distributed, an aspect of the process that affects the full enjoyment of all human rights, in particular in developing countries;

5. *Also recognizes* that only through broad and sustained efforts, including policies and measures at the global level to create a shared future based upon our common humanity in all its diversity, can globalization be made fully inclusive and equitable and have a human face, thus contributing to the full enjoyment of all human rights;

6. *Affirms* that globalization is a complex process of structural transformation, with numerous interdisciplinary aspects, which has an impact on the enjoyment of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development;

7. *Also affirms* that the international community should strive to respond to the challenges and opportunities posed by globalization in a manner that ensures respect for the cultural diversity of all;

8. *Underlines*, therefore, the need to continue to analyse the consequences of globalization for the full enjoyment of all human rights;

9. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[404] and requests the Secretary-General to seek further the views of Member States and to submit a comprehensive report on this subject to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session.

RESOLUTION 56/166

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/583/Add.2, para. 109)[405]

56/166. Human rights and mass exoduses

The General Assembly,

Deeply disturbed by the scale and magnitude of exoduses and displacements of people in many regions of the world and by the human suffering of refugees and displaced persons, a high proportion of whom are women and children,

Recalling its previous resolutions on this subject, as well as those of the Commission on Human Rights, and the conclusions of the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993,[406] which recognized, inter alia, that gross violations of human rights, persecution, political and ethnic conflicts, famine and economic insecurity, poverty and generalized violence were among the root causes leading to mass exoduses and displacements of people,

Mindful of the three open debates that have taken place within the Security Council on the protection of civilians in armed conflict and the two reports of the Secretary-General on that subject,[407]

Welcoming the fiftieth anniversary of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees,[408] and noting the continuing relevance of the provisions of the Convention to the situation of people in mass exoduses,

Welcoming also the process of the Global Consultations on International Protection launched by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and in particular the discussions that took place in March 2001 on the protection of refugees in mass influx situations,

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[404] A/56/254 and Add.1.

[405] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[406] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[407] S/1999/957 and S/2001/331.

[408] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

Welcoming further the increased attention being given by the United Nations, including the Office of the High Commissioner, to the problem of camp security, including through the development of operational guidelines on the separation of armed elements from refugee populations,

Stressing the importance of adherence to international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law in order to avert mass exoduses and to protect refugees and internally displaced persons, and expressing its deep concern at the lack of respect for those laws and principles, especially during armed conflict, including the denial of safe and unimpeded access to the displaced,

Reaffirming the primary responsibility of States to ensure the protection of refugees and internally displaced persons,

Noting with satisfaction the efforts by the United Nations system to develop a comprehensive approach to addressing the root causes and effects of movements of refugees and other displaced persons and strengthening emergency preparedness and response mechanisms,

Recognizing that the human rights machinery of the United Nations, including the mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights and the human rights treaty bodies, has important capabilities to address human rights violations that cause movements of refugees and displaced persons or prevent durable solutions to their plight,

Recognizing also the complementarity between the systems for the protection of human rights and for humanitarian action, in particular the mandates of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, as well as the work of the Representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, and that cooperation between them, in accordance with their respective mandates, as well as coordination between the human rights, political and security components of United Nations operations, make important contributions to the promotion and protection of the human rights of persons forced into mass exodus and displacement,

Acknowledging with appreciation the coordination within, as well as the independent work of, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in protecting and assisting refugees and internally displaced persons, in cooperation with relevant United Nations bodies,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[409]

2. *Strongly deplores* ethnic and other forms of intolerance as one of the major causes of forced migratory movements, and urges States to take all necessary steps to ensure respect for human rights, especially the rights of persons belonging to minorities;

3. *Reaffirms* the need for all Governments, intergovernmental bodies and relevant international organizations to intensify their cooperation and assistance in worldwide efforts to address human rights situations that lead to, as well as the serious problems that result from, mass exoduses of refugees and displaced persons;

4. *Urges* the Secretary-General to continue to give high priority to the consolidation and strengthening of emergency preparedness and response mechanisms, including early warning activities in the humanitarian area, so that, inter alia, effective action is taken to identify all human rights abuses that contribute to mass exoduses of persons;

5. *Encourages* States that have not already done so to consider acceding to the 1951 Convention[408] and the 1967 Protocol[410] relating to the Status of Refugees and to other regional instruments concerning refugees, as applicable, and relevant international instruments of human rights and humanitarian law, and to take appropriate measures to disseminate and implement those instruments domestically to encourage compliance with provisions against arbitrary and forcible displacement and greater respect for the rights of those who flee;

6. *Emphasizes* the responsibility of all States and international organizations to cooperate with those countries affected by mass exoduses of refugees and displaced persons, in particular developing countries;

7. *Calls upon* Governments, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other relevant parts of the United Nations system, as well as relevant international and non-governmental organizations, to continue to respond to the assistance and protection needs of refugees and other displaced persons worldwide, including to promote durable solutions to their plight;

8. *Urges* States to uphold the civilian and humanitarian character of refugee camps and settlements, consistent with international law, inter alia, through effective measures to prevent the infiltration of armed elements, to identify and separate any such armed elements from refugee populations, to settle refugees at safe locations, where possible away from the border, and to ensure prompt and unhindered access to them by humanitarian personnel;

9. *Encourages* the special rapporteurs, special representatives and working groups of the Commission on Human Rights and the United Nations human rights treaty bodies, acting within their mandates, to seek information, where

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[409] A/56/334.

[410] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 606, No. 8791.

appropriate, on human rights problems that may result in mass exoduses of populations or impede their voluntary return home and, where appropriate, to include such information, together with recommendations thereon, in their reports and to bring such information to the attention of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights for appropriate action in fulfilment of her mandate, in consultation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;

10. *Requests* all United Nations bodies, acting within their mandates, the specialized agencies and governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to cooperate fully with all mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights and, in particular, to provide them with all relevant information in their possession on the human rights situations creating or affecting refugees and displaced persons;

11. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in the exercise of her mandate, as set out in General Assembly resolution 48/141 of 20 December 1993, to coordinate human rights activities throughout the United Nations system and, in cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, to pay particular attention to situations that cause or threaten to cause mass exoduses or displacements and to contribute to efforts to address such situations effectively and promote sustainable returns through promotion and protection measures, including human rights monitoring in respect of those who fled or have returned as part of mass exoduses, emergency preparedness and response mechanisms, early warning and information-sharing, technical advice, expertise and cooperation in countries of origin as well as host countries;

12. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to contribute to the creation of an environment viable for return in post-conflict societies through initiatives such as the rehabilitation of the justice system, the creation of national institutions capable of defending human rights and broad-based programmes of human rights education and the strengthening of local non-governmental organizations through field presences and programmes of advisory services and technical cooperation;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare and submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution as it pertains to all aspects of human rights and mass exoduses, with particular emphasis on efforts by the United Nations system to enhance the protection of those who become displaced during mass exoduses and to facilitate their return and reintegration, as well as information on efforts to continue to enhance the capacity of the United Nations to avert new flows of refugees and other displaced persons and to tackle the root causes of such flows;

14. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this question at its fifty-eighth session.

RESOLUTION 56/167

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/583/Add.2, para. 109)[411]

56/167. United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education

The General Assembly,

Guided by the fundamental and universal principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[412]

Reaffirming article 26 of the Declaration, which states that "education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms", and recalling the provisions of other relevant international human rights instruments that reflect the aims of this article,

Recalling the high importance attached to human rights education by the World Conference on Human Rights, held in Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993,

Recalling also the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights concerning the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995–2004,

Believing that human rights education constitutes an important vehicle for the elimination of gender-based discrimination and for ensuring equal opportunities through the promotion and protection of the human rights of women,

Convinced that every woman, man and child, in order to realize their full human potential, must be made aware of all their human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Convinced also that human rights education should involve more than the provision of information and should constitute a comprehensive, lifelong process by which people at all levels of development and in all societies learn respect for the dignity of others and the means and methods of ensuring that respect in all societies,

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[411] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zambia.

[412] Resolution 217 A (III).

Recognizing that human rights education is essential to the realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms and that carefully designed training, dissemination and information programmes can have a catalytic effect on national, regional and international initiatives to promote and protect human rights and prevent human rights violations,

Convinced that human rights education contributes to a holistic concept of development consistent with the dignity of women and men of all ages, which takes into account particularly vulnerable segments of society, such as children, young persons, older persons, indigenous people, minorities, the rural and urban poor, migrant workers, refugees, persons with the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) and disabled persons,

Affirming that human rights education is a key to changing attitudes and behaviour based on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and to promoting tolerance and respect for diversity in societies, and that such education is a determining factor in the promotion, dissemination and protection of the democratic values of justice and equity, which are essential to prevent and combat the spread of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, as was recognized at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001,

Welcoming the holding of the International Consultative Conference on School Education in Relation to Freedom of Religion and Belief, Tolerance and Non-discrimination in Madrid from 23 to 25 November 2001,

Welcoming also the efforts to promote human rights education made by educators and non-governmental organizations in all parts of the world, as well as by intergovernmental organizations, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Development Programme,

Recognizing the invaluable and creative role that non-governmental and community-based organizations play in the promotion and protection of human rights by disseminating public information and engaging in human rights education, especially at the grass-roots level and in remote and rural communities,

Aware of the potential role of the private sector in implementing at all levels of society the Plan of Action for the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995–2004,[413] and the World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights through financial support for governmental and non-governmental activities as well as their own creative initiatives,

Convinced that the effectiveness of existing human rights education and public information activities would be enhanced by better coordination and cooperation at the national, regional and international levels,

Recalling that it is within the responsibility of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to coordinate relevant United Nations education and public information programmes in the field of human rights,

Noting with appreciation the efforts undertaken so far by the Office of the High Commissioner to increase information-sharing in the area of human rights education through the development of a database and resource collection on the human rights education and to disseminate human rights information through its web site[414] and its publications and external relations programmes,

Welcoming the initiative of the Office of the High Commissioner to develop further the project entitled "Assisting Communities Together", launched in 1998, supported by voluntary funds and designed to provide small grants to grass-roots and local organizations carrying out practical human rights activities,

Welcoming also other United Nations public information activities in the field of human rights, including the World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights and the implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[415] the project of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization entitled "Towards a culture of peace", and the Dakar Framework for Action adopted at the World Education Forum,[416] which, inter alia, reconfirmed the mandated role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in coordinating Education for All partners and maintaining their collective momentum within the process of securing quality basic education,

Recognizing the value of information and communications technologies in human rights education to promote dialogue and understanding of human rights, and in that context welcoming, inter alia, the "CyberSchoolBus"[417] and the United Nations Children's Fund "Voices of Youth"[418] initiatives,

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[413] A/51/506/Add.1, appendix.

[414] www.unhchr.ch.

[415] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[416] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26–28 April 2000* (Paris, 2000).

Recalling the mid-term global evaluation of progress made towards the achievement of the objectives of the Decade undertaken by the Office of the High Commissioner, in cooperation with all other principal actors in the Decade, which was presented in the relevant report of the High Commissioner to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session,[419]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995–2004, and public information activities in the field of human rights;[420]

2. *Urges* all Governments to promote the development of comprehensive, participatory and sustainable national strategies for human rights education and to establish and strengthen, as a priority in education policies, knowledge of human rights in both its theoretical dimension and its practical application;

3. *Welcomes* the steps taken by Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to implement the Plan of Action for the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995–2004,[413] and to develop public information activities in the field of human rights, as indicated in the report of the High Commissioner;

4. *Urges* all Governments to contribute further to the implementation of the Plan of Action, in particular by:

(*a*) Encouraging the establishment, in accordance with national conditions, of broadly representative national committees for human rights education responsible for the development of comprehensive, effective and sustainable national plans of action for human rights education and information, taking into consideration the recommendations of the mid-term global evaluation of the Decade[419] and the guidelines for national plans of action for human rights education developed by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;[421]

(*b*) Encouraging, supporting and involving national and local non-governmental and community-based organizations in the implementation of their national plans of action;

(*c*) Initiating and developing cultural and educational programmes aimed at countering racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and supporting and implementing public information campaigns and specific training programmes in the field of human rights, as emphasized at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance;

5. *Encourages* Governments to consider, within their national plans of action for human rights education:

(*a*) The establishment of public access human rights resource and training centres capable of engaging in research, including the gender-sensitive training of trainers;

(*b*) The preparation, collection, translation and dissemination of human rights education and training materials;

(*c*) The organization of courses, conferences, workshops and public information campaigns and assistance in the implementation of internationally sponsored technical cooperation projects for human rights education and public information;

6. *Encourages* States, where such national public access human rights resource and training centres exist, to strengthen their capacity to support human rights education and public information programmes at the international, regional, national and local levels;

7. *Calls upon* Governments, in accordance with national conditions, to accord priority to the dissemination, in the relevant national local and indigenous languages, of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[412] the International Covenants on Human Rights[422] and other human rights instruments, human rights materials and training manuals, including information on human rights mechanisms and complaint procedures and reports of States parties submitted under international human rights treaties, and to provide information and education in those languages on the practical ways in which national and international institutions and procedures may be utilized to ensure the effective implementation of those instruments;

8. *Encourages* Governments to support further, through voluntary contributions, the education and public information efforts undertaken by the Office of the High Commissioner within the framework of the Plan of Action;

9. *Requests* the High Commissioner to continue to coordinate and harmonize human rights education and information strategies within the United Nations system, including the implementation of the Plan of Action, in cooperation, inter alia, with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and to ensure maximum effectiveness and efficiency in the collection, use, processing, management and distribution of human rights information and educational materials, including through electronic means;

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[417] See www.un.org/Pubs/CyberSchoolBus/humanrights.

[418] See www.unicef.org/voy.

[419] See A/55/360.

[420] See A/56/271.

[421] A/52/469/Add.1 and Corr.1.

[422] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

10. *Encourages* Governments to contribute to the further development of the web site of the Office of the High Commissioner,[414] in particular with respect to the dissemination of human rights education materials and tools, and to continue and expand the publications and external relations programmes of the Office;

11. *Encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to support national capacities for human rights education and information through its technical cooperation programme in the field of human rights, including the organization of training courses and peer education initiatives and the development of targeted training materials for professional audiences, as well as the dissemination of human rights information materials as a component of technical cooperation projects, to develop further its databases and resource collection on human rights education and to continue to monitor developments in human rights education;

12. *Urges* the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat to continue to utilize United Nations information centres for the timely dissemination, within their designated areas of activity, of basic information, reference and audio-visual materials on human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the reports of States parties submitted under international human rights instruments, and, to that end, to ensure that the information centres are supplied with adequate quantities of those materials;

13. *Stresses* the need for close collaboration between the Office of the High Commissioner and the Department of Public Information in the implementation of the Plan of Action and the World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights, and the need to harmonize their activities with those of other international organizations, such as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization with regard to its project entitled "Towards a culture of peace" and the International Committee of the Red Cross, and relevant non-governmental organizations with regard to the dissemination of information on international humanitarian law;

14. *Invites* the specialized agencies and relevant United Nations programmes and funds to continue to contribute, within their respective spheres of competence, to the implementation of the Plan of Action and the World Public Information Campaign and to cooperate and coordinate with each other and with the Office of the High Commissioner in that regard;

15. *Encourages* the relevant organs, bodies and agencies of the United Nations system, all human rights bodies of the United Nations system, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, to provide training in human rights for all United Nations personnel and officials;

16. *Encourages* the human rights treaty bodies, when examining reports of States parties, to place emphasis on the obligations of States parties in the area of human rights education and to reflect that emphasis in their concluding observations;

17. *Calls upon* international, regional and national non-governmental organizations and intergovernmental organizations, in particular those concerned with children and youth, women, labour, development, food, housing, education, health care and the environment, as well as all other social justice groups, human rights advocates, educators, religious organizations, the private sector and the media, to undertake specific activities of formal, non-formal and informal education, including cultural events, alone and in cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in implementing the Plan of Action;

18. *Welcomes*, in that context, initiatives to include civil society, non-governmental organizations, children and youth in national delegations to world conferences, summits and other meetings, as well as the work of non-governmental organizations and intergovernmental agencies in organizing parallel non-governmental organization and youth satellite meetings, as an important component of human rights education;

19. *Encourages* Governments, regional organizations and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to explore the potential support and contribution to human rights education of all relevant partners, including the private sector, development, trade and financial institutions and the media, and to seek their cooperation in the development of human rights education strategies;

20. *Encourages* regional organizations to develop strategies for the wider distribution of materials on human rights education through regional networks and to develop region-specific programmes to maximize the participation of national entities, whether governmental or non-governmental, in programmes on human rights education;

21. *Encourages* intergovernmental organizations to assist, upon request, collaboration between governmental institutions and non-governmental organizations at the national level;

22. *Requests* the Office of the High Commissioner to continue the implementation of and to expand the "Assisting Communities Together" project and to consider other appropriate ways and means to support human rights education activities, including those undertaken by non-governmental organizations;

23. *Requests* the High Commissioner to bring the present resolution to the attention of all members of the international community and of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned with human rights education and public information, and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the progress made towards the achievement of the objectives of the Decade under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

RESOLUTION 56/168

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/583/Add.2, para. 109)[423]

56/168. Comprehensive and integral international convention to promote and protect the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the obligations contained in the relevant human rights instruments,

Reaffirming also that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[424] proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights, and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set out therein, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status,

Recalling its resolution 37/52 of 3 December 1982, by which it adopted the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons,[425] its resolution 48/96 of 20 December 1993, by which it adopted the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities, and its resolution 54/121 of 17 December 1999,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/10 of 27 July 2000 on further promotion of equalization of opportunities by, for and with persons with disabilities, as well as other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the functional commissions of the Council,

Reaffirming the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits and their respective follow-up reviews, in particular as they pertain to the promotion of the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities on an equal and participatory basis,

Noting with satisfaction that the Standard Rules play an important role in influencing the promotion, formulation and evaluation of policies, plans, programmes and actions at the national, regional and international levels to further the equalization of opportunities by, for and with persons with disabilities,

Recognizing that, despite different efforts made to increase cooperation and integration and increasing awareness of and sensitivity to disability issues since the adoption of the World Programme of Action by Governments, bodies and relevant organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations, these efforts have not been sufficient to promote full and effective participation by and opportunities for persons with disabilities in economic, social, cultural and political life,

Encouraged by the increasing interest of the international community in the promotion and protection of the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities in the world under a comprehensive and integral approach,

Deeply concerned about the disadvantaged and vulnerable situation faced by 600 million persons with disabilities around the world, and conscious of the need to advance in the elaboration of an international instrument,

Looking forward to the final reports of the Special Rapporteur on disability of the Commission for Social Development to be presented to that Commission, and also the outcome of the study currently being undertaken pursuant to Commission on Human Rights resolution 2000/51 of 25 April 2000[426] on the adequacy of instruments in respect of the protection and monitoring of the human rights of persons with disabilities,

Taking into account the recommendation of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001, to the General Assembly to consider elaborating a comprehensive and integral international convention to promote and protect the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities, including special provisions that address the discriminatory practices and treatment that affect them,[427]

1. *Decides* to establish an Ad Hoc Committee, open to the participation of all Member States and observers of the United Nations, to consider proposals for a comprehensive and integral international convention to promote and protect the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities, based on the holistic approach in the work done in the fields of social development, human rights and non-discrimination and taking into account the recommendations of the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission for Social Development;

2. *Also decides* that, prior to the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly the Ad Hoc Committee shall hold at least one meeting of a duration of ten working days;

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[423] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Mexico, Morocco, Nicaragua, Panama, Philippines, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Suriname and Uruguay.

[424] Resolution 217 A (III).

[425] A/37/351/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex, sect. VIII, recommendation I (IV).

[426] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[427] See A/CONF.189/12, chap. I, para. 180.

3. *Invites* States, relevant bodies and organizations of the United Nations system, including relevant human rights treaty bodies, the regional commissions, the Special Rapporteur on disability of the Commission for Social Development, as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations with an interest in the matter to make contributions to the work entrusted to the Ad Hoc Committee, based on the practice of the United Nations;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with the support of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Division for Social Policy and Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, to submit to the Ad Hoc Committee prior to its first session a compilation of existing international legal instruments, documents and programmes which directly or indirectly address the situation of persons with disabilities, including, inter alia, those of conferences, summits, meetings or international or regional seminars convened by the United Nations and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Ad Hoc Committee with the outcome of the study undertaken pursuant to Commission on Human Rights resolution 2000/51 and the final reports that will be presented by the Special Rapporteur on disability of the Commission for Social Development to that Commission;

6. *Calls upon* States, in cooperation with regional commissions, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Division for Social Policy and Development and the Special Rapporteur on disability of the Commission for Social Development, to hold regional meetings or seminars to contribute to the work of the Ad Hoc Committee by making recommendations regarding the content and practical measures that should be considered in the international convention;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Ad Hoc Committee with the facilities necessary for the performance of its work;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the progress made by the Ad Hoc Committee.

RESOLUTION 56/169

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/583/Add.2, para. 109)[428]

56/169. Situation of human rights in Cambodia

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[429] and the International Covenants on Human Rights,[430]

Recalling the Agreement on a Comprehensive Political Settlement of the Cambodia Conflict, signed in Paris on 23 October 1991,[431] including part III thereof, relating to human rights,

Recalling also its resolution 55/95 of 4 December 2000, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2001/82 of 25 April 2001,[432] and recalling further previous relevant resolutions,

Recognizing that the tragic history of Cambodia requires special measures to ensure the protection of the human rights of all people in Cambodia and the non-return to the policies and practices of the past, as stipulated in the Agreement signed in Paris on 23 October 1991,

Desiring that the international community continue to respond positively to assisting efforts to investigate the tragic history of Cambodia, including responsibility for past international crimes, such as acts of genocide and crimes against humanity committed during the regime of Democratic Kampuchea from 1975 to 1979,

Bearing in mind the request made in June 1997 by the Cambodian authorities for assistance in responding to past serious violations of Cambodian and international law, the letter dated 15 March 1999 from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council[433] and the report of the Group of Experts appointed by the Secretary-General annexed thereto, and the discussions held between the Government of Cambodia and the United Nations Secretariat on standards and procedures for bringing to justice the Khmer Rouge leaders most responsible for the most serious violations of human rights in the years 1975 to 1979,

Recognizing the legitimate concern of the Government and people of Cambodia in the pursuit of internationally accepted principles of justice and of national reconciliation,

Recognizing also that the accountability of individual perpetrators of grave human rights violations is one of the central elements of any effective remedy for victims of human rights violations and a key factor in ensuring a fair and equitable justice system and, ultimately, reconciliation and stability within a State,

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[428] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[429] Resolution 217 A (III).

[430] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[431] A/46/608-S/23177.

[432] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[433] A/53/850-S/1999/231.

Welcoming the continuing role of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the promotion and protection of human rights in Cambodia,

I

Support of and cooperation with the United Nations

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General, through his Special Representative for human rights in Cambodia, in collaboration with the office in Cambodia of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, to assist the Government of Cambodia in ensuring the protection of the human rights of all people in Cambodia and to ensure adequate resources for the continued functioning of the operational presence in Cambodia of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and to enable the Special Representative to continue to fulfil his tasks expeditiously;

2. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the role and achievements of the Office of the High Commissioner in assisting the Government and people of Cambodia in the promotion and protection of human rights;[434]

3. *Also welcomes* the report of the Special Representative,[435] commends the Government of Cambodia on its openness and spirit of cooperation during the visits of the Special Representative, encourages the Government to continue its cooperation at all levels of government, supports the appeals of the Government and the Special Representative to increase international assistance to Cambodia and to continue working towards the reduction of poverty, commends the international community for the interest and support demonstrated at the Consultative Group Meeting on Cambodia, held in Tokyo on 12 and 13 June 2001, and encourages donor countries and other relevant parties to follow up their pledges of assistance and commitments;

4. *Requests* the Government of Cambodia to continue to cooperate with the Office of the High Commissioner to resolve outstanding issues in accordance with international standards so that both parties, without further delay, can sign the memorandum of understanding for the extension of the mandate of the office in Cambodia of the High Commissioner, notes with regret the delays encountered in the process thus far, and encourages the Government to continue to cooperate with the office;

5. *Notes with appreciation* the use by the Secretary-General of the United Nations Trust Fund for a Human Rights Education Programme in Cambodia to finance the programme of activities of the office in Cambodia of the High Commissioner, as defined in resolutions of the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights, and invites Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, foundations and individuals to consider contributing to the Trust Fund;

II

Administrative, legislative and judicial reform

1. *Notes with concern* the continued problems related to the rule of law and the functioning of the judiciary resulting from, inter alia, corruption, including interference by the executive with the independence of the judiciary, welcomes the continued commitment of the Government of Cambodia to reforming the judiciary, and urges the Government to continue to take the necessary measures to promote the independence, impartiality and effectiveness of the Supreme Council of the Magistracy and the judicial system as a whole and to increase its budgetary allocation to the judiciary, which is expected to result, inter alia, in a decrease in the number of excessive pre-trial detentions;

2. *Urges* the Government of Cambodia to continue its efforts towards the early adoption of the laws and codes that are essential components of the basic legal framework, including the draft statute on magistrates, a penal code, a code of criminal procedures, a new civil code and a code of civil procedure, as well as its efforts to reform the administration of justice and to enhance the training of judges and lawyers, appeals to the international community to assist the Government to this end, and welcomes, inter alia, the drafting of the forestry and fishery laws;

3. *Welcomes* the enactment of the Land Law, notes with concern the problems related to land, inter alia, land grabbing, forced evictions and further displacement, and urges the Government of Cambodia to continue its efforts to implement an effective, efficient and transparent land registration system, as envisaged in the Law, to solve these problems;

4. *Also welcomes* the efforts of the Government of Cambodia to implement its reform programme, including the adoption of the Governance Action Plan, encourages the timely and effective implementation of the Plan, and appeals to the international community to assist the Government in its efforts towards that end;

5. *Expresses serious concern* that the situation of impunity still exists in Cambodia, recognizes the commitment and efforts of the Government of Cambodia to respond to this problem, calls upon the Government, as a matter of critical priority, to take further measures to investigate urgently and to

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[434] A/56/230.

[435] See A/56/209.

prosecute, in accordance with due process of law and international human rights standards, all of those who have perpetrated serious crimes, including violations of human rights, and encourages the international community to provide means, such as technical assistance or expertise, to help the Government to meet its own commitments to bring perpetrators to justice more effectively;

6. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Government of Cambodia to demobilize its armed forces, including the launching of the first part of the demobilization programme, encourages the Government to implement the contents of the White Paper on National Defence and to continue to carry out effective reform, including the implementation of a full-scale demobilization programme that includes the disarming of demobilized soldiers based on the experience gained from a pilot project, aimed at professional and impartial police and military forces, and invites the international community to continue to assist the Government to this end;

7. *Also welcomes* the enactment of the Law on the Administration and Management of Communes/Sangkat and the Law on the Election of Commune/Sangkat Councils and the elections scheduled for 3 February 2002, strongly urges the Government of Cambodia, including at local and provincial levels, to conduct free and fair elections without violence to any party and encourages the international community to assist the Government to this end, strongly urges all political parties to participate in the elections in a democratic and peaceful manner, and in this regard welcomes the agreement of the two parties in power to abstain from violence, urges the Government to investigate thoroughly any instances of violence and intimidation that occur, and stresses the importance of independent and transparent national, provincial and commune election committees;

8. *Notes with serious concern* the prison conditions in Cambodia, notes with interest some important efforts to improve the prison system, recommends the continuation of international assistance to improve the material conditions of detention, and calls upon the Government of Cambodia to take further measures to improve the conditions of detention, to provide proper health care to detainees, including by strengthening the coordinating role of the Prison Health Department with the Ministry of Health, provincial authorities and non-governmental organizations working in this field, and to prevent any form of torture;

III

Human rights violations and violence

1. *Expresses grave concern* about the continued violations of human rights, including torture, excessive pre-trial detention, violation of labour rights and forced evictions, as well as political violence, police involvement in violence and the apparent lack of protection from mob killings, as detailed in the reports of the Special Representative, notes some progress made by the Government of Cambodia in addressing these issues, and urges the Government to take all necessary measures to prevent such violations;

2. *Urges* an end to racial violence against and vilification of ethnic minorities, and urges the Government of Cambodia to take all steps to prevent such violence, as well as to meet its obligations as a party to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[436] inter alia, by seeking technical assistance;

IV

Khmer Rouge tribunal

1. *Reaffirms* that the most serious human rights violations in Cambodia in recent history have been committed by the Khmer Rouge, and acknowledges that the final collapse of the Khmer Rouge and the continued efforts of the Government of Cambodia have paved the way for the restoration of peace, stability and national reconciliation in Cambodia and the investigation and prosecution of the leaders of the Khmer Rouge;

2. *Welcomes* the promulgation of the Law on the Establishment of Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia for the Prosecution of Crimes Committed during the Period of Democratic Kampuchea, noting with appreciation the general provisions and competence of the Law and its provision for a role for the United Nations, appeals to the Government of Cambodia to ensure that the senior leaders of Democratic Kampuchea and those who were most responsible for the crimes and serious violations of Cambodian penal law, international humanitarian law and custom and international conventions recognized by Cambodia are brought to trial in accordance with international standards of justice, fairness and due process of law, encourages the Government to continue to cooperate with the United Nations on this issue, welcomes the efforts of the Secretariat and the international community in assisting the Government to this end, urges the Government and the United Nations to conclude an agreement without delay so that the Extraordinary Chambers can start to function promptly, and appeals to the international community to provide assistance in this regard, including financial and personnel support to the Chambers;

V

Protection of women and children

1. *Welcomes* the progress made in improving the status of women, and urges the Government of Cambodia to take appropriate measures to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women, to combat violence against women in all its

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[436] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

forms and to take all steps to meet its obligations as a party to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[437] including by seeking technical assistance;

2. *Notes with grave concern* the continued and growing phenomenon of trafficking in and sexual exploitation of women and children and the increasing incidence of the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS), and requests the Government of Cambodia comprehensively to address these problems and their underlying causes;

3. *Urges* the Government of Cambodia to improve further the health conditions of children and their access to education, to provide and promote free and accessible birth registration and to establish an effective juvenile justice system that is consistent with international human rights standards, and invites the international community to continue to assist the Government to this end;

4. *Notes with serious concern* the problem of child labour in its worst forms, calls upon the Government of Cambodia to take immediate and effective measures to protect children from economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous, to interfere with their education or to be harmful to their health, safety or morals, inter alia, by enforcing Cambodian laws on child labour, the existing Labour Law and anti-trafficking law provisions on behalf of children and prosecuting those who violate these laws, invites the International Labour Organization to continue to extend the necessary assistance in this regard, and encourages the Government to consider ratifying the International Labour Organization Convention concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour (Convention No. 182) adopted in 1999;

VI

Enhancement of human rights

1. *Recognizes* the importance of human rights education and training in Cambodia, commends the efforts of the Government of Cambodia, the Office of the High Commissioner and civil society in this field, encourages further strengthening and wider dissemination of these programmes, and invites the international community to continue to assist these efforts;

2. *Commends* the vital and valuable role played by non-governmental organizations in Cambodia, inter alia, in the development of civil society, and encourages the Government of Cambodia to ensure the protection of those human rights organizations and their members and to continue to work closely and cooperatively with non-governmental organizations in efforts to strengthen and uphold human rights in Cambodia, in particular in the lead-up to the communal elections;

3. *Notes with interest* the activities undertaken by the governmental Cambodian Human Rights Committee, the National Assembly Commission on Human Rights and Reception of Complaints and the Senate Commission on Human Rights and Reception of Complaints, stresses the importance of further promoting trust in those institutions and enhancing their activities, and invites the international community to extend its technical assistance to this end;

4. *Encourages* the Government of Cambodia in its efforts to establish an independent national mechanism for the promotion and protection of human rights which should be based on the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights known as the Paris Principles,[438] working in close cooperation with civil society, and requests the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to provide advice and technical assistance in these efforts;

5. *Requests* the Government of Cambodia to follow up the recommendations made by the international human rights treaty bodies regarding the reports submitted by the Government, calls upon the Government to meet its reporting obligations under all international human rights instruments to which Cambodia is a party, and requests the office in Cambodia of the High Commissioner to continue to provide assistance in this regard;

VII

Landmines and small arms

1. *Expresses grave concern* at the devastating consequences and destabilizing effects of anti-personnel landmines on Cambodian society, welcomes the progress made by the Government of Cambodia in the removal of these mines and for victim assistance and mine-awareness programmes, encourages the Government to continue its efforts in this regard, and commends donor countries and other actors of the international community for their contributions and assistance to mine action;

2. *Expresses concern* at the substantial number of small arms still existing in society, commends the progress made by the Government of Cambodia and the cooperation of the international community in dealing with issues of small arms, and encourages the Government to cooperate in regional and international efforts to reduce the number of illicit small arms, including implementation of the existing programmes;

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[437] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[438] See resolution 48/134, annex.

VIII

Conclusion

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the role and achievements of the Office of the High Commissioner in assisting the Government and the people of Cambodia in the promotion and protection of human rights and on the recommendations made by the Special Representative on matters within his mandate;

2. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the situation of human rights in Cambodia at its fifty-seventh session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

RESOLUTION 56/170

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/583/Add.2, para. 109)[439]

56/170. Protection of migrants

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/92 of 4 December 2000,

Considering that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[440] proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set out therein, without distinction of any kind, in particular as to race, colour or national origin,

Reaffirming the provisions concerning migrants adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights,[441] the International Conference on Population and Development,[442] the World Summit for Social Development[443] and the Fourth World Conference on Women,[444]

Taking note of the positive treatment of the issue of migrants at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, and recognizing the economic, social and cultural contributions of migrants to the countries of destination and origin,

Bearing in mind the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the human rights of migrants,[445]

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolutions 2001/52 on the human rights of migrants and 2001/56 on the protection of migrants and their families, of 24 April 2001,[446]

Recalling its resolution 40/144 of 13 December 1985, by which it approved the Declaration on the Human Rights of Individuals Who are not Nationals of the Country in which They Live,

Recognizing the positive contributions that migrants frequently make, including through their eventual integration into their host society,

Bearing in mind the situation of vulnerability in which migrants frequently find themselves, owing, inter alia, to their absence from their States of origin and to the difficulties they encounter because of differences of language, custom and culture, as well as the economic and social difficulties and obstacles to the return to their States of origin of migrants who are non-documented or in an irregular situation,

Bearing in mind also the need for a focused and consistent approach towards migrants as a specific vulnerable group, in particular migrant women and children,

Deeply concerned at the manifestations of violence, racism, xenophobia and other forms of discrimination and inhuman and degrading treatment against migrants, especially women and children, in different parts of the world,

Underlining the importance of the creation of conditions that foster greater harmony between migrant workers and the rest of the society of the States in which they reside, with the aim of eliminating the growing manifestations of racism and xenophobia perpetrated in segments of many societies by individuals or groups against migrants,

Encouraged by the increasing interest of the international community in the effective and full protection of the human rights of all migrants, and underlining the need to make further efforts to ensure respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants,

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[439] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Armenia, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Brazil, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Lesotho, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Russian Federation, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey and Uruguay.

[440] Resolution 217 A (III).

[441] See A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[442] See *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[443] See *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[444] See *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[445] E/CN.4/2001/83 and Add.1.

[446] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

Noting the efforts made by States to penalize the international trafficking of migrants and to protect the victims of this illegal activity,

Taking note of Advisory Opinion OC-16/99, issued by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights on 1 October 1999, on The Right to Information on Consular Assistance in the Framework of the Guarantees of the Due Process of Law, in the case of foreign nationals detained by the authorities of a receiving State,

1. *Welcomes* the renewed commitment made in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[447] to take measures to ensure respect for and protection of the human rights of migrants, migrant workers and their families, to eliminate the increasing acts of racism and xenophobia in many societies and to promote greater harmony and tolerance in all societies;

2. *Requests* all Member States, in conformity with their respective constitutional systems, effectively to promote and protect the human rights of all migrants, in conformity with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[440] and the international instruments to which they are party, which may include the International Covenants on Human Rights,[448] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[449] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[450] the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[451] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[452] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[453] and other applicable international human rights instruments;

3. *Strongly condemns* all forms of racial discrimination and xenophobia with regard to access to employment, vocational training, housing, schooling, health services and social services, as well as services intended for use by the public, and welcomes the active role played by governmental and non-governmental organizations in combating racism and assisting individual victims of racist acts, including migrant victims;

4. *Calls upon* all States to review and, where necessary, revise immigration policies with a view to eliminating all discriminatory practices against migrants and to provide specialized training for government policy-making and law enforcement, immigration and other concerned officials, thus underlining the importance of effective action to create conditions that foster greater harmony and tolerance within societies;

5. *Reiterates* the need for all States parties to protect fully the universally recognized human rights of migrants, especially women and children, regardless of their legal status, and to treat them humanely, in particular with regard to assistance and protection;

6. *Reaffirms emphatically* the duty of States parties to ensure full respect for and observance of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations of 1963,[454] in particular with regard to the right of foreign nationals, regardless of their immigration status, to communicate with a consular official of their own State in the case of detention, and the obligation of the State in whose territory the detention occurs to inform the foreign national of that right;

7. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of Governments to safeguard and protect the rights of migrants against illegal or violent acts, in particular acts of racial discrimination and crimes perpetrated with racist or xenophobic motivation by individuals or groups, and urges them to reinforce measures in this regard;

8. *Urges* all States to adopt effective measures to put an end to the arbitrary arrest and detention of migrants, including by individuals or groups;

9. *Expresses its support* for the work of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the human rights of migrants, and requests her to take into account the recommendations contained in the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action[455] in the performance of her mandate, tasks and duties;

10. *Encourages* Member States that have not yet done so to enact domestic criminal legislation to combat the international trafficking of migrants, which should take into account, in particular, trafficking that endangers the lives of migrants or includes different forms of servitude or exploitation, such as any form of debt bondage or sexual or labour exploitation, and to strengthen international cooperation to combat such trafficking;

11. *Encourages* all Governments to remove obstacles that may prevent the safe, unrestricted and expeditious transfer of earnings, assets and pensions of migrants to their country of origin or to any other countries, in conformity with applicable legislation, and to consider, as appropriate, measures to solve other problems that may impede such transfers;

12. *Welcomes* immigration programmes, adopted by some countries, that allow migrants to integrate fully into the

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[447] See resolution 55/2.

[448] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[449] Resolution 39/46, annex.

[450] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[451] Resolution 45/158, annex.

[452] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[453] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[454] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 596, No. 8638.

[455] See A/CONF.189/12, chap. I.

host countries, facilitate family reunification and promote a harmonious and tolerant environment, and encourages States to consider the possibility of adopting these types of programmes;

13. *Calls upon* all States to protect the human rights of migrant children, in particular unaccompanied migrant children, ensuring that the best interests of the children and the importance of reuniting them with their parents, when possible and appropriate, are the paramount consideration, and encourages the relevant United Nations bodies, within the framework of their respective mandates, to pay special attention to the conditions of migrant children in all States and, where necessary, to put forward recommendations for strengthening their protection;

14. *Welcomes* the proclamation of 18 December as International Migrants Day and the invitation to Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to observe it through, inter alia, the dissemination of information on the human rights and fundamental freedoms of migrants and on their economic, social and cultural contributions to their host and home countries, the sharing of experience and the design of actions to ensure their protection;

15. *Encourages* States to participate in regional dialogues on problems of migration, and invites them to design and implement programmes with States of other regions in order to protect the rights of migrants;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution under the sub-item entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

RESOLUTION 56/171

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/583/Add.3, para. 48),[456] by a recorded vote of 72 to 49, with 46 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Botswana, Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kiribati, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, Tuvalu, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia

Against: Afghanistan, Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Chad, China, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Gambia, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kazakhstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Myanmar, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam

Abstaining: Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Georgia, Ghana, Guinea, Jamaica, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mexico, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Zambia

56/171. Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[457] the International Covenants on Human Rights[458] and other international human rights instruments,

Reaffirming that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and to fulfil the obligations they have undertaken under the various international instruments in this field,

Mindful that the Islamic Republic of Iran is a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[458] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[458] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[459] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[460]

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject, the most recent of which is resolution 55/114 of 4 December 2000, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2001/17 of 20 April 2001,[461]

1. *Welcomes*:

(*a*) The interim report of the Special Representative of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran;[462]

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[456] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, San Marino, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[457] Resolution 217 A (III).

[458] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[459] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[460] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[461] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[462] See A/56/278.

(*b*) The broad participation of the electorate in the presidential elections held in June 2001, which expressed the true commitment of the Iranian people to the democratic process in the Islamic Republic of Iran;

(*c*) The reports that religion will no longer be requested in the registration of births, marriages, divorces or deaths;

(*d*) The positive developments regarding the situation of Iranian children in the fields of education, health and juvenile justice, as reported by the United Nations Children's Fund and the Special Representative;

(*e*) The process of legal reform under way in the Islamic Republic of Iran, and encourages the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to continue this process;

(*f*) The re-establishment of the Majilis Human Rights Commission, and expresses the hope that it will complement the work carried out by the Islamic Human Rights Commission to enhance the human rights situation in the Islamic Republic of Iran;

(*g*) The public and serious debate, which is taking place within society and in the media, on the validity and utility of the imposition of public flogging and other harsh punishments;

(*h*) The efforts of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran in accepting and caring for large numbers of Afghan refugees;

2. *Notes*:

(*a*) The commitment made by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to strengthen respect for human rights in the country and to promote the rule of law;

(*b*) The assessment of the Special Representative that some improvements have taken place, inter alia, in such areas as women's education;

(*c*) The establishment of the National Committee for the Promotion of the Rights of Religious Minorities, and encourages the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to expedite its launching;

3. *Expresses its concern* at:

(*a*) The continuing violations of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran;

(*b*) The fact that, since 1996, no invitation has been extended by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Special Representative to visit the country;

(*c*) The continued deterioration of the situation with regard to freedom of opinion and expression, especially attacks against the freedom of the press, the imprisonment of journalists and members of Parliament, the harsh sentences imposed on those who participated in the Berlin conference or its preparation,[463] and the harsh reactions to student demonstrations, including the imprisonment and mistreatment of those who participated;

(*d*) The growing number of executions in the absence of respect for internationally recognized safeguards, and in particular deplores public and especially cruel executions, such as stoning;

(*e*) The still unsatisfactory compliance with international standards in the administration of justice, the absence of due process of law and the use of national security laws to deny the rights of the individual;

(*f*) The use of torture and other forms of cruel, inhuman and degrading punishment, in particular the practice of amputation and the growing number of cases of public flogging;

(*g*) The systemic discrimination against women and girls in law and in practice, and at the recent rejection of legislation to raise the age of marriage for women;

(*h*) The continuing discrimination against persons belonging to minorities, in particular against Baha'is, Christians, Jews and Sunnis;

(*i*) The ongoing lack of clarity concerning all the circumstances surrounding the suspicious deaths and killings of intellectuals and political activists in late 1998 and early 1999;

4. *Calls upon* the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran:

(*a*) To abide by its obligations freely undertaken under the International Covenants on Human Rights[458] and other international instruments on human rights and to continue its efforts to consolidate respect for human rights and the rule of law;

(*b*) To take further measures to promote full and equal enjoyment by women and girls of their human rights and to undertake major educational programmes to promote women's rights;

(*c*) To implement the recommendations made by the Committee on the Rights of the Child[464] as a matter of priority, as well as to consider ratifying the International Labour Organization Convention concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour (Convention No. 182);

(*d*) To eliminate all forms of discrimination based on religious grounds or against persons belonging to minorities and to address this matter in an open manner, with the full participation of the minorities themselves, as well as to implement fully the conclusions and recommendations of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the question of religious intolerance relating to the Baha'is and other minority groups[465] until they are completely emancipated;

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[463] Ibid., paras. 53–58; see also E/CN.4/2001/39, paras. 88–94.

[464] See CRC/C/15/Add.123.

(*e*) To ensure full respect for freedom of expression;

(*f*) To end the imposition of the death penalty for crimes committed by persons under the age of 18, and to ensure that capital punishment will not be imposed for crimes other than the most serious and will not be pronounced in disregard of the obligations it has assumed under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[458] and the provisions of United Nations safeguards, and to provide the Special Representative with relevant statistics on this matter;

(*g*) To take all necessary measures to end the use of torture and other forms of cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment and punishment, in particular the practices of amputation and public flogging, and to pursue vigorously penitentiary reform;

(*h*) To implement judicial reform speedily and completely, to guarantee the dignity of the individual and to ensure the full application of due process of law and fair and transparent procedures by an independent and impartial judiciary, and in this context to ensure respect for the rights of the defence and the equity of verdicts in all instances, including for members of religious minority groups;

(*i*) To enact as soon as possible legislation to ensure that people are not punished for exercising their political freedoms;

(*j*) To invite the Special Representative to visit the country and cooperate fully with him, in particular so that he can, through direct contacts with all sectors of society, observe the evolution of the human rights situation in the country and assess future needs, including in the area of technical cooperation in the field of human rights;

(*k*) To give effect, in the near future, to its invitation to the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances to visit the Islamic Republic of Iran, as well as to consider extending invitations to other relevant thematic mechanisms to visit the country;

5. *Decides* to continue the examination of the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, paying particular attention to further developments, including the situation of the Baha'is and other minority groups, at its fifty-seventh session, under the agenda item entitled "Human rights questions", in the light of additional elements provided by the Commission on Human Rights.

RESOLUTION 56/172

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/583/Add.3, para. 48)[466]

56/172. Situation of human rights in parts of South-Eastern Europe

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[467] the International Covenants on Human Rights,[468] the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees[469] and the 1967 Protocol thereto,[470] the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide,[471] the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities,[472] the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,[473] the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement,[474] accepted humanitarian rules, as set out in the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949,[475] and, for participating States of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Helsinki Final Act of 1 August 1975,

Bearing in mind all resolutions on this subject, in particular Commission on Human Rights resolution 2001/12 of 18 April 2001[476] and General Assembly resolution 55/113 of 4 December 2000, as well as all Security Council resolutions and presidential statements,

Recalling Security Council resolutions 1160 (1998) of 31 March 1998, 1199 (1998) of 23 September 1998, 1203 (1998) of 24 October 1998, 1239 (1999) of 14 May 1999, 1244 (1999) of 10 June 1999 and the general principles annexed thereto, 1345 (2001) of 21 March 2001, 1367 (2001) of 10 September 2001, all previous General Assembly resolutions on the subject, as well as the statement made on 24 March 1998 by the Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights at the fifty-fourth session of the Commission,[477] Commission on Human Rights resolutions 1998/79 of 22 April 1998,[478] 1999/2 of 13 April 1999[479] and 2000/26 of 18 April 2000[480] and the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights of 27 September 1999 on the situation of human rights in Kosovo,[481] and taking note of the periodic report of 11 October 2001 of the Special Representative of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia,[482]

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[465] See E/CN.4/1996/95/Add.2.

[466] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[467] Resolution 217 A (III).

[468] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[469] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

[470] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

[471] Resolution 260 A (III).

[472] Resolution 47/135, annex.

[473] See resolution 36/55.

[474] E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

[475] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[476] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

Underlining the obligation of all authorities in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and all parties in Kosovo to cooperate fully in the implementation of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) and the general principles on a political solution to the Kosovo crisis adopted on 6 May 1999, annexed to that resolution, and welcoming the Common Document signed on 5 November 2001 by the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo and the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia,

Expressing its full support for and encouraging efforts towards the full implementation of commitments contained in the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the annexes thereto (collectively the "Peace Agreement"),[483]

1. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms and to do everything possible to further the process of reconciliation and regional cooperation;

2. *Welcomes* all efforts by countries of the region to overcome the effects of past conflicts, and also the efforts of the international community, which have helped the countries of the region to make great strides towards peace and stability;

3. *Also welcomes* moves by all parties in the region to establish and maintain a constructive dialogue with their neighbours, an essential element of regional stability, and urges them to continue these efforts;

4. *Notes* that varying degrees of progress have been made in the human rights situation in all States, but that further efforts are required in several areas;

5. *Also notes* the progress in the region, and encourages further free, fair, inclusive and democratic elections throughout the region as an important element of the rule of law and the promotion and protection of human rights;

6. *Urges* all parties to condemn ethnic violence and intolerance and to oppose actively, in a manner consistent with internationally recognized human rights standards, advocates or perpetrators of any form of violence as a means to secure peace and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and encourages parties to use dialogue to address their differences;

7. *Urges* all authorities in the region to cooperate fully with the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991, and in particular to comply with their obligation to arrest immediately and transfer to the custody of the Tribunal all indicted persons, as well as to comply with requests by the Tribunal for access to information and witnesses;

8. *Emphasizes* the need to prevent and end violations of human rights, including cases of arbitrary detention, as well as the continued detention of political prisoners and cases of discrimination on the basis of ethnic origin, nationality, language or religion;

9. *Also emphasizes* the need for sustained progress on all issues that have an impact on the enjoyment of human rights, in particular, legal reform, impunity, protection of all persons belonging to minorities and the fight against organized crime and trafficking in persons;

10. *Stresses* the need for enhanced efforts to foster and effect the prompt and voluntary return and integration of displaced persons and refugees in safety and with dignity;

11. *Underlines* the importance of consistent efforts to establish the fate of missing persons, and encourages all States and parties to provide information to organizations involved in this effort, including through the tracing mechanisms of the International Committee of the Red Cross, and to cooperate fully with organizations such as the International Committee of the Red Cross and the International Commission on Missing Persons that are involved in the effort to determine the identities, whereabouts and fate of missing persons;

12. *Encourages* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Council of Europe to enhance their cooperation in the region, including within the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe;

13. *Encourages* the international community to continue providing voluntary contributions to meet the pressing human rights and humanitarian needs of the region;

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[477] Ibid., *1998, Supplement No. 3* (E/1998/23), chap. III, sect. E, para. 28.

[478] Ibid., chap. II, sect. A.

[479] Ibid., *1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[480] Ibid., *2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[481] E/CN.4/2000/10.

[482] See A/56/460.

[483] A/50/790-S/1995/999.

14. *Welcomes* the appointment of the Special Representative of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and calls upon all authorities and all concerned parties to cooperate fully with the Special Representative as he carries out his work.

RESOLUTION 56/173

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/583/Add.3, para. 48),[484] by a recorded vote of 90 to 3, with 69 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia

Against: Iran (Islamic Republic of), Rwanda, Uganda

Abstaining: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, China, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Zambia

56/173. Situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that all Member States are required to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms as stated in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[485] the International Covenants on Human Rights[486] and other applicable human rights instruments,

Aware that the Democratic Republic of the Congo is a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[486] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[486] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[487] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[488] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[489] the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[490] the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 for the protection of victims of war[491] and the first Additional Protocol thereto, of 1977,[492] as well as the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights,[493]

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject, the most recent of which is resolution 55/117 of 4 December 2000, and those of the Commission on Human Rights, as well as Security Council resolutions 1304 (2000) of 16 June 2000, 1332 (2000) of 14 December 2000, 1341 (2001) of 22 February 2001, 1355 (2001) of 15 June 2001 and 1376 (2001) of 9 November 2001,

Recalling also the Ceasefire Agreement signed at Lusaka,[494] as well as the Kampala disengagement plan[495] and the Harare sub-plans for disengagement and redeployment, and welcoming the decision of the Security Council to authorize the start-up of phase III of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo,

Concerned at all violations of human rights and international humanitarian law in the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo by parties to the conflict, including acts of and incitement to ethnic hatred and violence, as noted in the reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo,[496]

Noting that the promotion and the protection of human rights for all are essential for achieving stability and security in the region and will contribute to the creation of the environment necessary for cooperation among States in the region,

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[484] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[485] Resolution 217 A (III).

[486] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[487] Resolution 39/46, annex.

[488] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[489] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[490] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[491] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[492] Ibid., vol. 1125, No. 17512.

[493] Ibid., vol. 1520, No. 26363.

[494] S/1999/815, annex.

[495] See S/2000/330 and Corr.1, paras. 21–28.

[496] A/56/327 and E/CN.4/2001/40/Add.1.

Reiterating its support for the continuation of the Inter-Congolese Dialogue, which, requiring the cooperation and full participation of all the Congolese parties, is an essential process for the future of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the entire region,

Acknowledging the need to expand the presence and full participation of women in the peace process,

Recalling its decision to request the Special Rapporteurs of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions and a member of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances to carry out a joint mission of investigation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, while regretting that the security situation in the country is still preventing such a mission,

Encouraging the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to give effect to its earlier commitment, including to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, to restore and reform its judicial system, in accordance with the relevant international conventions, and to put an end to the trying of civilians by the Military Court,

1. *Welcomes*:

(*a*) The meeting between the Political Committee for the Implementation of the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement and the Security Council on 9 November 2001, and urges all parties to take the necessary measures to implement phase III of the deployment of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(*b*) The reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo;[496]

(*c*) The visits made by the Special Rapporteur to the Democratic Republic of the Congo from 11 to 21 March 2001 and from 20 July to 1 August 2001 for the purpose of evaluating the existing situation in the country;

(*d*) The holding in Gaborone from 20 to 24 August 2001 of the preparatory meeting for the Inter-Congolese Dialogue and the signature by all the parties concerned of a declaration of commitment providing for the release of all prisoners of conscience, the free movement of goods and persons and the protection of the civilian populations;

(*e*) The effective release by the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo of several human rights defenders;

(*f*) The adoption by the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo of Law No. 001 of 17 May 2001, on political parties, and the promise of openness and tolerance which it offers, inviting the Government to continue on that path and to enforce the law fully for the benefit of all political tendencies in the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(*g*) The action undertaken by the human rights field office in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, while encouraging the Government to collaborate and further strengthen its cooperation with the office;

(*h*) The statements by the President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the effect that child soldiers would in future no longer be recruited and, in that context, the ratification by the Democratic Republic of the Congo of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict,[497] and the commitment made by the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to cooperate with United Nations organs and non-governmental organizations in order to ensure the demobilization and reintegration of child soldiers, as well as the measures taken by the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to that end, while urging other parties to the conflict to do the same;

(*i*) The release and repatriation carried out under the auspices of the International Committee of the Red Cross in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in conformity with international humanitarian law, of persons at risk because of their ethnic origin, and of prisoners of war;

(*j*) The continuing presence and wider deployment of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in support of the implementation of the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement;

(*k*) The commitments made by the President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to improve the human rights situation, particularly those given when he attended the fifty-seventh session of the Commission on Human Rights, while encouraging him to give concrete effect to those commitments;

(*l*) The organization of the National Human Rights Conference, held in June 2001, while expressing the hope that its results will lead to an improvement of the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(*m*) The consent of the President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the Special Rapporteur's plan to undertake, within the framework of his mandate and in the coming months, an initial joint mission to investigate the massacres in the province of South Kivu and other atrocities referred to by the Special Rapporteur in his latest and previous reports, with a view to bringing to justice those responsible and reporting thereon to the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights, and the agreement given by the rebel groups to that mission of investigation;

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[497] Resolution 54/263, annex I.

2. *Expresses its concern* at:

(*a*) The resumption of fighting in the eastern part of the country and the adverse impact of the conflict on the situation of human rights and its severe consequences for the security and well-being of the civilian population throughout the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, including the increase in the number of refugees and internally displaced persons, particularly in the eastern part of the country;

(*b*) The missed opportunity for the implementation of the Inter-Congolese Dialogue at the meeting which was held for that purpose in Addis Ababa on 15 October 2001, while welcoming the scheduled resumption of the process in South Africa;

(*c*) The situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, particularly in the zones held by the rebel groups and under foreign occupation, and the persistent violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, including the atrocities against the civilian populations, usually committed with complete impunity, while emphasizing in this regard that the occupying forces should be held accountable for the violations of human rights in the territories under their control. It condemns in particular:

(i) All the massacres and atrocities still being committed throughout the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in particular in the zones held by the armed rebels and under foreign occupation, including Bugobe, Nyatende, Kamisimbi, Lurhala, Nyangesi, Biambwe, Nbingi, Bunyatenge, Kaghumo, Banyuke, and Kirima, Kalemié, Pweto, Rutshuru, Kibumba, Kimia Kimia, Dungo Mulunga and Kasese Bolanga;

(ii) The occurrence of cases of summary and arbitrary execution, disappearance, torture, arbitrary arrest and detention without trial of, among others, journalists, opposition politicians, human rights defenders and people who have cooperated with the United Nations mechanisms;

(iii) The numerous instances of rape and sexual violence against women and children, including as a means of warfare;

(iv) The continuing recruitment and use of child soldiers by armed forces and groups, including the enlistment and kidnapping of children throughout the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in particular in North and South Kivu and in the eastern province;

(v) The sentencing to death of civilians tried before the Military Court, in violation of the obligations assumed by the Democratic Republic of the Congo under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[486] as well as the prolonged and arbitrary detentions ordered by the Court;

(vi) The death sentences and summary executions by the Congolese Rally for Democracy-Goma;

(vii) The indiscriminate attacks against civilian populations, including against hospitals in the zones held by rebel forces and the zones held by foreign forces;

(*d*) The conflicts between the Hema and Lendu ethnic groups in the eastern province, where thousands of Congolese have already been killed and where Uganda, which controls the zone de facto, is responsible for ensuring respect for human rights;

(*e*) The excessive accumulation and spread of small arms and the distribution, circulation and illicit trafficking of arms in the region and their negative impact on human rights;

(*f*) The breaches of freedom of expression, opinion, association and assembly throughout the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in particular in the eastern part of the country;

(*g*) The harassment and persecution of human rights defenders and other members of civil society;

(*h*) The acts of intimidation and persecution against representatives of the Churches, as well as the killings of those persons in the eastern part of the country;

(*i*) The severe insecurity, which seriously hampers the ability of humanitarian organizations to secure access to affected populations, particularly in the zones held by armed rebels and under the control of foreign forces, and condemns the killing of six humanitarian workers of the International Committee of the Red Cross on 26 April 2001 in Ituri Province, for which those responsible must be brought to justice;

(*j*) The illegal exploitation of the natural resources of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, demands that such exploitation cease, and emphasizes that the natural resources of the country should not be used to finance the conflict there;

3. *Urges* all parties to the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo:

(*a*) To permit the restoration without delay of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in accordance with the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement and the relevant resolutions of the Security Council;

(*b*) To implement fully the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement;

(*c*) To cease all military and logistic support as well as all strategic collaboration with the armed groups, particularly those operating in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(*d*) To do everything possible to create the prerequisites for further meetings with a view to advancing the Inter-Congolese Dialogue, with emphasis on ensuring the full participation of women in this process;

(*e*) To protect human rights and respect international humanitarian law, in particular, as applicable to them, the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 for the protection of victims of war[491] and the Additional Protocols thereto, of 1977,[498] the Hague Convention respecting the Laws and Customs of War on Land of 18 October 1907,[499] the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide[500] and other relevant provisions of international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law, and in particular to respect the rights of women and children and to ensure the safety of all civilians, including refugees and internally displaced persons, regardless of their origin;

(*f*) To ensure the safety and freedom of movement of United Nations and associated personnel and to ensure full, safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel to all affected populations throughout the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(*g*) To cease all military activity in the Democratic Republic of the Congo which breaches the ceasefire provided for in the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement and the Kampala disengagement plan, including the Harare sub-plans, and the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, and urges all foreign forces to withdraw without delay from the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(*h*) To put an immediate end to the recruitment and use of child soldiers, which are in contravention of the international human rights standards, and to extend unreserved cooperation to the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the United Nations Children's Fund, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and humanitarian organizations in order to ensure the rapid demobilization of child soldiers, their return home and their rehabilitation;

(*i*) To define and implement all measures necessary to create conditions conducive to the voluntary return, in safety and with dignity, of all refugees and displaced persons and to ensure their fair and lawful treatment;

(*j*) To authorize access, in complete freedom and security, to the zones which they control in order to permit investigations into violations of human rights and international human rights law;

(*k*) To cooperate fully with the National Commission responsible for investigating allegations concerning the massacre of a large number of refugees and displaced persons in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, as well as with the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in considering the allegations in question, with a view to submitting to the Secretary-General, through the National Commission, a further progress report on the investigations concerning this matter;

4. *Calls upon* the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to take specific measures in order:

(*a*) To comply fully with its obligations under international human rights law and to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, to fulfil its responsibility to protect the human rights of the population in its territory, as well as to take a leading part in efforts to prevent conditions that might lead to further flows of internally displaced persons and refugees within the Democratic Republic of the Congo and at its borders;

(*b*) To fulfil its commitment to reform and restore the judicial system and, in particular, its declared intention progressively to abolish the death penalty, as well as to reform military justice, in conformity with the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[486] while encouraging the continuation of the moratorium on executions in force;

(*c*) To put an end to impunity and to fulfil its responsibility to ensure that those responsible for human rights violations and grave breaches of international humanitarian law are brought to justice;

(*d*) To create, in accordance with its undertakings as stipulated in the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement, and particularly the articles concerning the Inter-Congolese Dialogue, conditions that would allow for a democratization process that is genuine and all-inclusive and that fully responds to the aspirations of all people in the country, and to complete the administrative procedures required to permit activities by political parties and prepare for the holding of democratic, free and transparent elections;

(*e*) To ensure full respect for freedom of opinion and expression, including freedom of the press in relation to all types of mass media, as well as freedom of association and assembly;

(*f*) To remove the restrictions that still affect the work of non-governmental organizations and to promote human rights awareness, particularly by strengthening cooperation with civil society, including all human rights organizations;

(*g*) To continue to facilitate and strengthen further its cooperation with the human rights field office in the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(*h*) To cooperate fully with the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and

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[498] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

[499] See Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, *The Hague Conventions and Declarations of 1899 and 1907* (New York, Oxford University Press, 1915).

[500] Resolution 260 A (III).

Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 in ensuring that all those responsible for the crime of genocide, crimes against humanity and other violations of article 3 common to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and Additional Protocol II thereto,[501] are brought to justice in accordance with international principles of due process;

(*i*) To continue to facilitate the creation of the necessary prerequisites for the deployment, in conditions of security, of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and to guarantee the safety and freedom of movement of its personnel and associated personnel;

5. *Decides*:

(*a*) To continue to examine the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and to request the Special Rapporteur to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session, incorporating a gender perspective;

(*b*) To request the Special Rapporteurs on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions and a member of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances to undertake, if appropriate in cooperation with the National Commission responsible for investigating violations of human rights and breaches of international humanitarian law in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (ex-Zaire) between 1996 and 1997, a joint mission to investigate all the massacres perpetrated in the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, particularly the massacres committed in the province of South Kivu and other atrocities referred to by the Special Rapporteur in his latest and previous reports on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, with a view to bringing to justice those responsible, and to report on this matter to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-eighth session and to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

(*c*) To request the Secretary-General to give the Special Rapporteurs and the joint mission all necessary assistance to enable them fully to discharge their mandate;

(*d*) To request the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide the technical skills needed by the joint mission in order to discharge its mandate;

(*e*) To request the international community to extend support to the human rights field office in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in particular to enable it:

(i) To expand its participation in technical cooperation programmes, advisory services and activities to increase awareness of human rights, in particular by supporting the efforts made by the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to strengthen the judicial system;

(ii) To increase its support to non-governmental organizations defending human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, continue and develop cooperation with them and facilitate the activities of the joint mission, particularly through financial support.

RESOLUTION 56/174

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/583/Add.3, para. 48),[502] by a recorded vote of 100 to 2, with 63 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Yugoslavia

Against: Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Sudan

Abstaining: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, China, Congo, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia. Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia

56/174. Situation of human rights in Iraq

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[503] the International

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[501] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1125, No. 17513.

[502] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, San Marino, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[503] Resolution 217 A (III).

Covenants on Human Rights[504] and other human rights instruments,

Reaffirming that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and to fulfil the obligations they have undertaken under the various international instruments in this field,

Mindful that Iraq is a party to the International Covenants on Human Rights, other international human rights instruments and the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 for the protection of victims of war,[505]

Recalling its previous resolutions and those of the Commission on Human Rights on the subject, and taking note of the most recent, Commission resolution 2001/14 of 18 April 2001,[506]

Recalling also Security Council resolution 686 (1991) of 2 March 1991, in which the Council called upon Iraq to release all Kuwaitis and nationals of other States who might still be held in detention, Council resolution 687 (1991) of 3 April 1991, Council resolution 688 (1991) of 5 April 1991, in which the Council demanded an end to repression of the Iraqi civilian population and insisted that Iraq cooperate with humanitarian organizations and that the human rights of all Iraqi citizens be respected, Council resolutions 986 (1995) of 14 April 1995, 1111 (1997) of 4 June 1997, 1129 (1997) of 12 September 1997, 1143 (1997) of 4 December 1997, 1153 (1998) of 20 February 1998, 1175 (1998) of 19 June 1998, 1210 (1998) of 24 November 1998, 1242 (1999) of 21 May 1999, 1266 (1999) of 4 October 1999, 1281 (1999) of 10 December 1999, 1302 (2000) of 8 June 2000, 1330 (2000) of 5 December 2000, 1352 (2001) of 1 June 2001 and 1360 (2001) of 3 July 2001, in which the Council authorized States to permit imports of Iraqi oil in order to allow Iraq to purchase humanitarian supplies, and Council resolution 1284 (1999) of 17 December 1999, in which the Council, by means of a comprehensive approach to the situation in Iraq, inter alia, removed the ceiling for the allowable import of Iraqi oil in order to increase the amount of revenue available for the purchase of humanitarian supplies, laid down new provisions and procedures designed to improve the implementation of the humanitarian programme and to further achievement in meeting the humanitarian needs of the Iraqi population and reiterated the obligation of Iraq to facilitate the repatriation of all Kuwaiti and third-country nationals referred to in paragraph 30 of Council resolution 687 (1991),

Taking note of the concluding observations of the Human Rights Committee,[507] the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination,[508] the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[509] the Committee on the Rights of the Child[510] and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women[511] on the recent reports submitted to them by Iraq, in which these treaty-monitoring bodies point to a wide range of human rights problems and express the view that the Government of Iraq remains bound by its treaty obligations, while pointing to the adverse effect of sanctions on the daily life of the population, in particular women and children,

Reaffirming that it is the responsibility of the Government of Iraq to ensure the well-being of its entire population and the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, concerned about the dire situation in Iraq, which affects the population, in particular children, as stated in the reports of several United Nations human rights treaty bodies, and appealing to all concerned to fulfil their mutual obligations in the management of the humanitarian programme established by the Security Council in its resolution 986 (1995),

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Iraq[512] and the observations, conclusions and recommendations contained therein;

2. *Notes with dismay* that there has been no improvement in the situation of human rights in the country;

3. *Strongly condemns*:

(*a*) The systematic, widespread and extremely grave violations of human rights and of international humanitarian law by the Government of Iraq, resulting in all-pervasive repression and oppression sustained by broad-based discrimination and widespread terror;

(*b*) The suppression of freedom of thought, expression, information, association, assembly and movement through fear of arrest, imprisonment, execution, expulsion, house demolition and other sanctions;

(*c*) The repression faced by any kind of opposition, in particular the harassment and intimidation of and threats against Iraqi opponents living abroad and members of their families;

(*d*) The widespread use of the death penalty in disregard of the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[504] and the United Nations safeguards;

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[504] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[505] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[506] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[507] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 40* (A/53/40), vol. I, paras. 90–111.

[508] Ibid., *Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 18* (A/54/18), paras. 337–361.

[509] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 2* (E/1998/22), paras. 245–283.

[510] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 41* (A/55/41), paras. 304–333.

[511] Ibid., *Supplement No. 38* (A/55/38), part two, chap. IV, sect. B, paras. 166–210.

[512] See A/56/340.

(*e*) Summary and arbitrary executions, including political killings and the continued so-called clean-out of prisons, the use of rape as a political tool, as well as enforced or involuntary disappearances, routinely practised arbitrary arrests and detention and consistent and routine failure to respect due process and the rule of law;

(*f*) Widespread, systematic torture and the maintaining of decrees prescribing cruel and inhuman punishment as a penalty for offences;

4. *Calls upon* the Government of Iraq:

(*a*) To abide by its freely undertaken obligations under international human rights treaties and international humanitarian law to respect and ensure the rights of all individuals, irrespective of their origin, ethnicity, gender or religion, within its territory and subject to its jurisdiction;

(*b*) To put an end to all summary and arbitrary executions and to ensure that capital punishment will not be imposed for crimes other than the most serious and will not be pronounced in disregard of the obligations assumed under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the provisions of United Nations safeguards;

(*c*) To bring the actions of its military and security forces into conformity with the standards of international law, in particular those of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

(*d*) To cooperate with United Nations human rights mechanisms, in particular by inviting the Special Rapporteur to visit the country and allowing the stationing of human rights monitors throughout Iraq pursuant to the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights;

(*e*) To establish the independence of the judiciary and abrogate all laws granting impunity to specified forces or persons killing or injuring individuals for any purpose beyond the administration of justice under the rule of law as prescribed by international standards;

(*f*) To abrogate all decrees that prescribe cruel and inhuman punishment or treatment, including mutilation, and to ensure that torture and cruel punishment and treatment no longer occur;

(*g*) To abrogate all laws and procedures, including Revolution Command Council Decree No. 840 of 4 November 1986, that penalize free expression, and to ensure that the genuine will of the people shall be the basis of authority of the State;

(*h*) To ensure free exercise of political opposition and to prevent intimidation and repression of political opponents and their families;

(*i*) To respect the rights of all ethnic and religious groups and to cease immediately its continued repressive practices aimed at the Iraqi Kurds, Assyrians and Turkmen, including the practice of forced deportation and relocation, and to ensure the personal integrity and freedoms of all citizens, including the Shi'a population;

(*j*) To cooperate with the Tripartite Commission and its Technical Subcommittee to establish the whereabouts and resolve the fate of the remaining several hundred missing persons, including prisoners of war, Kuwaiti nationals and third-country nationals, victims of the illegal Iraqi occupation of Kuwait, to cooperate with the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances of the Commission on Human Rights for that purpose, to cooperate with the high-level coordinator of the Secretary-General for Kuwaitis and third-country nationals and Kuwaiti property, to pay compensation to the families of those who died or disappeared in the custody of the Iraqi authorities, through the mechanism established by the Security Council in resolution 692 (1991) of 20 May 1991, to release immediately all Kuwaitis and nationals of other States who may still be held in detention and inform families about the whereabouts of arrested persons, to provide information about death sentences imposed on prisoners of war and civilian detainees and to issue death certificates for deceased prisoners of war and civilian detainees;

(*k*) To cooperate further with international aid agencies and non-governmental organizations to provide humanitarian assistance and monitoring in the northern and southern areas of the country;

(*l*) To continue to cooperate in the implementation of Security Council resolutions 986 (1995), 1111 (1997), 1143 (1997), 1153 (1998), 1210 (1998), 1242 (1999), 1266 (1999), 1281 (1999), 1302 (2000), 1330 (2000), 1352 (2001) and 1360 (2001), as well as to cooperate, together with all concerned, in the implementation of the humanitarian sections of Security Council resolution 1284 (1999), to continue its efforts to ensure fully the timely and equitable distribution, without discrimination, to the Iraqi population, including in remote areas, of all humanitarian supplies purchased under the oil-for-food programme, to address effectively the needs of persons requiring special attention, such as children, pregnant women, the disabled, the elderly and the mentally ill, among others, further to facilitate the work of United Nations humanitarian personnel in Iraq by ensuring the free and unobstructed movement of observers throughout the country, as well as their free access, without any discrimination, to all the population, and to ensure that involuntarily displaced persons receive humanitarian assistance without the need to demonstrate that they have resided for six months at their places of temporary residence;

(*m*) To cooperate in the identification of the minefields existing throughout Iraq, with a view to facilitating their marking and eventual clearing;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur with all necessary assistance in carrying out

his mandate, and decides to continue the examination of the situation of human rights in Iraq at its fifty-seventh session, under the item entitled "Human rights questions", in the light of additional elements provided by the Commission on Human Rights.

RESOLUTION 56/175

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/583/Add.3, para. 48),[513] by a recorded vote of 79 to 37, with 48 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia

Against: Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, China, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Gambia, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Myanmar, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam

Abstaining: Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominica, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Haiti, Jamaica, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Mozambique, Nepal, Nigeria, Philippines, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Senegal, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Thailand, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Vanuatu, Zambia

56/175. Situation of human rights in the Sudan

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms as stated in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[514] the International Covenants on Human Rights[515] and other applicable human rights instruments and the duty to fulfil the obligations that they have undertaken under the various international instruments in this field,

Mindful that the Sudan is a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[515] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[515] the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[516] the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights[517] and the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 for the protection of victims of war,[518]

Recalling its previous resolutions on the situation of human rights in the Sudan, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2001/18 of 20 April 2001,[519]

Deeply concerned at the impact of the continuing conflict in the Sudan between the Government of the Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement on the situation of human rights and at the disregard by all parties to the conflict of relevant rules of international humanitarian law, while welcoming the repeated declarations by the Government of the Sudan of a comprehensive ceasefire,

Deeply concerned also at the lack of progress in the peace process, the repeated offensives of the Sudanese army and the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement, the general upsurge in fighting and the continued aerial bombings by the Government of the Sudan,

Aware of the urgent need for the Government of the Sudan to implement effective additional measures in the field of human rights and humanitarian relief in order to protect the civilian population from the effects of armed conflict,

Expressing its firm belief that progress towards a peaceful settlement of the conflict in southern Sudan within the context of the peace initiative of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development will contribute greatly to the creation of a better environment for the respect of human rights in the Sudan,

Taking note of the initiative by Egypt and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya aiming at a negotiated and lasting peace in the country, and encouraging close coordination with the Intergovernmental Authority on Development,

Condemning the murder of four Sudanese relief workers in April 1999 while in the custody of the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement,

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[513] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[514] Resolution 217 A (III).

[515] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[516] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[517] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1520, No. 26363.

[518] Ibid., vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[519] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

1. *Welcomes*:

(*a*) The appointment of a new Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Sudan and his interim report;[520]

(*b*) The good cooperation extended by the Government of the Sudan to the former Special Rapporteur and to the new Special Rapporteur during his visits to the Sudan in March and October 2001 and the cooperation extended to other United Nations mandate-holders in the field of human rights, as well as the stated willingness of the Government of the Sudan to continue to cooperate with the Special Rapporteur;

(*c*) The expressed commitment of the Government of the Sudan to respect and promote human rights and the rule of law and its expressed commitment to a process of democratization with a view to establishing a representative and accountable Government, reflecting the aspirations of the people of the Sudan;

(*d*) The activities of the Committee for the Eradication of Abduction of Women and Children as a constructive response on the part of the Government of the Sudan, the cooperation extended to the Committee by the local communities and the support of the international community and non-governmental organizations;

(*e*) The stipulation of basic human rights and freedoms in the Constitution of the Sudan and the establishment of the Constitutional Court, which has been in operation since April 1999;

(*f*) The repeated statements by the Government of the Sudan in favour of a comprehensive, lasting and effectively monitored ceasefire in southern Sudan;

(*g*) The proposal to create a broad-based national council to evaluate foreign peace initiatives to end the conflict and make relevant recommendations;

(*h*) Recent additional efforts by the Government of the Sudan to improve freedom of association and assembly, in particular the adoption of the Associations and Political Parties Act of 2000 and the announcement relating to the creation of a high commission to review the law on public order;

(*i*) The recent visit, upon the invitation of the Government of the Sudan, of the Representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons, as well as the commitment of the Government to continue its efforts to address the problem of internally displaced persons and to follow up effectively the visit of the Representative, including by holding a conference on the subject of internal displacement in the near future;

(*j*) The people-to-people peace process at the grass-roots level, including the Nuer conference, held at Kisumu, Kenya, from 16 to 22 June 2001, which led to the Kisumu Declaration for Nuer Unity and Peace, and which, like other conferences held at the local level, should contribute to a comprehensive peace settlement in the context of the existing peace initiatives;

(*k*) Recent measures to drop lawsuits against some political detainees as well as the liberation of some political detainees, while expressing its deep concern at the fact that at least some of the detainees were re-arrested shortly thereafter on the basis of the National Security Forces Act, thereby perpetuating their detention;

(*l*) The steps taken by the Government of the Sudan towards the ratification of the International Labour Organization Convention concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour (Convention No. 182);

(*m*) The reconvening of the National Assembly in April 2001;

(*n*) The improved role of the National Press Council in monitoring complaints about the press;

(*o*) The technical cooperation agreement signed by the Government of the Sudan and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on 29 March 2000 and the posting of an expert from the Office to the Sudan with the task of advising the Government on the development of national capacity to promote and protect human rights;

(*p*) The demobilization and repatriation of more than 3,500 child soldiers in close cooperation between the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement and the United Nations Children's Fund;

(*q*) The recent signature by the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement of an agreement to prohibit the use, production, stockpiling and transfer of anti-personnel mines throughout the territories under its control, and at the same time encourages the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement to implement the agreement swiftly;

(*r*) The efforts to implement the right to education;

2. *Expresses its deep concern* at:

(*a*) The impact of the ongoing armed conflict on the situation of human rights and its adverse effects on the civilian population, in particular women and children, and at the continuing serious violations of human rights, fundamental freedoms and international humanitarian law by all parties to the conflict, in particular:

> (i) The occurrence of cases of extrajudicial summary or arbitrary execution resulting from armed conflicts between members of the armed forces and their allies and armed insurgent groups within the country, including the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement;

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[520] See A/56/336.

(ii) The retention of the state of emergency until the end of 2001;

(iii) The occurrence, within the framework of the conflict in southern Sudan, of the use of children as soldiers and combatants, forced conscription, forced displacement, arbitrary detention, torture and ill-treatment of civilians as well as the still unresolved cases of enforced or involuntary disappearances;

(iv) The plight of internally displaced persons in the Sudan, whose numbers are among the highest in the world, in particular with regard to women and children, and the harassment of these groups;

(v) The forced displacement of populations, in particular in areas surrounding the oilfields, and notes the invitation extended by the Government of the Sudan to the Special Rapporteur to visit the oil-producing areas;

(vi) The continued abduction of women and children by Murahaleen groups and other government militias and their subjection to forced labour or similar conditions;

(vii) The lack of efforts to restrain the establishment by certain groups directly sponsored by the Government, including the Murahaleen, of militias that commit serious human rights abuses such as killings, torture, rape, abduction and the destruction of shelter and livelihood;

(viii) The negative role of undisciplined southern militias, armed by the Sudanese army and the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement, which are responsible for killings, torture, rape, the burning of villages, the destruction of crops and the stealing of cattle;

(ix) The continuation of indiscriminate aerial bombardment of civilian targets by the Government of the Sudan, in particular the bombing of schools, hospitals, churches, food distribution areas and market places, which seriously and repeatedly affects the civilian population and civilian installations;

(x) The use by both the Sudanese army and the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement of civilian premises for military purposes;

(xi) The use of weapons, including landmines, and indiscriminate artillery shelling against the civilian population;

(xii) The conditions, in contravention of humanitarian principles, imposed by both the Government of the Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement on humanitarian organizations working in the Sudan, especially the denial of access to them, which have seriously affected their safety and led to the withdrawal of many such organizations, with grave consequences for the already dangerous situation of thousands of people living in areas under their control;

(xiii) The difficulties encountered by United Nations and humanitarian staff in carrying out their mandate because of abductions and harassment by both parties to the conflict, indiscriminate aerial bombings and the reopening of hostilities;

(xiv) The attacks on and use of force against United Nations as well as humanitarian personnel by the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement;

(xv) The measures taken by the leadership of the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement to prevent tribal elders, women and youths from participating in civil society gatherings such as the Nuer conference;

(*b*) Continuing violations of human rights in areas under the control of the Government of the Sudan, in particular:

(i) Restrictions on freedom of religion, as well as restrictions on freedom of expression, in particular the significant censorship of the press;

(ii) The restriction of political freedom, in spite of the replacement, in March 2000, of the Political Associations Act of 1998 by the Associations and Political Parties Act and the increased activity by some opposition parties;

(iii) The arbitrary arrest and detention without trial of political opponents, human rights defenders and journalists, in particular, as well as acts of intimidation and harassment against the population by the security organs;

(iv) The new amendment to the National Security Forces Act, approved by Parliament and endorsed by the President, which allows the security forces to arrest and detain individuals for a period of up to six months and three days without proper judicial review and to renew the detention as a preventive measure, practically without limits;

(v) Detention in precarious conditions, the use of torture and violations of human rights by security organs, intelligence agencies and the police, while encouraging the judiciary to exercise more control over such agencies;

(vi) The use of the cruelest forms of corporal punishment in contravention of human rights norms and standards;

(vii) The use of the death penalty in disregard of the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[515] and United Nations safeguards;

3. *Urges* all parties to the continuing conflict in the Sudan:

(*a*) To respect and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, to respect fully international humanitarian law, in particular the need to ensure the protection of civilians and civilian premises, thereby facilitating the voluntary return, repatriation and reintegration of refugees and internally displaced persons to their homes, and to ensure that those responsible for violations of human rights and international humanitarian law are brought to justice;

(*b*) To work immediately to put in place a global, lasting and effectively monitored ceasefire as a necessary first step to a negotiated settlement to the conflict, and to commit themselves to a permanent ceasefire;

(*c*) To take immediate steps to implement the 1994 Declaration of Principles, in particular to take all necessary steps towards the negotiation of a ceasefire agreement as agreed upon in point 6 of the Declaration of Principles;

(*d*) To resume the peace talks immediately and to continue to cooperate fully with the peace efforts of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development;

(*e*) To stop immediately the use of weapons, including landmines and indiscriminate artillery shelling, against the civilian population, which runs counter to principles of international humanitarian law;

(*f*) To stop the use of tribal militias that commit serious human rights abuses;

(*g*) In particular the Government of the Sudan, to cease immediately and unconditionally all indiscriminate aerial bombardment of the civilian population and civilian installations, including schools, hospitals, churches, food distribution areas and market places, which runs counter to fundamental principles of human rights and humanitarian law;

(*h*) In particular the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement, to stop using civilian premises for military purposes, misappropriating humanitarian assistance and diverting relief supplies, including food, from their civilian recipients;

(*i*) To grant full, safe and unhindered access to all international agencies and humanitarian organizations in order to facilitate by all possible means the delivery of humanitarian assistance, in conformity with international humanitarian law, to all civilians in need of protection and assistance, in particular in the Nuba Mountains, the Western Upper Nile, Blue Nile State, Bahr-el-Ghazal and other areas in need throughout the country, to continue to cooperate with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and Operation Lifeline Sudan to deliver such assistance, to take measures against those who are responsible for abductions of United Nations and humanitarian staff, urges in particular the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement to lift as soon as possible the conditions it has imposed on the work of international agencies and humanitarian organizations, and also urges in particular the Government of the Sudan to end the use of the denial of humanitarian assistance flights for political purposes;

(*j*) Not to use or recruit children under the age of 18 as soldiers, encourages the continuation of the process of demobilization of child soldiers currently being undertaken by the United Nations Children's Fund, with the cooperation of the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement, and urges both parties to the conflict not to use or recruit children under the age of 18 as soldiers and to refrain from the practice of forced conscription;

(*k*) To fulfil their commitments concerning the protection of children affected by the conflict, such as to cease the use of anti-personnel landmines and attacks on sites where there is usually a significant presence of children as well as the abduction and exploitation of children and the recruitment of children as soldiers, to advance the demobilization and reintegration of child soldiers and to ensure access to displaced and unaccompanied minors and reunite them with their families;

(*l*) To allow an independent investigation of the case of the four Sudanese nationals who were abducted on 18 February 1999 while travelling with a team from the International Committee of the Red Cross on a humanitarian mission and subsequently killed while in custody of the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement, and urges the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement to return the bodies to their families;

4. *Calls upon* the Government of the Sudan:

(*a*) To comply fully with its obligations under international human rights instruments to which the Sudan is a party and to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as to respect its obligations under international humanitarian law;

(*b*) To ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;[521]

(*c*) To sign and ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;[522]

(*d*) To ratify the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction;[523]

(*e*) To undertake efforts towards promoting an environment that is more conducive to democratization and to improvements in the field of human rights;

(*f*) To continue to strengthen its efforts to ensure the rule of law by bringing legislation more into line with the Constitution and into conformity with the applicable international human rights instruments to which the Sudan is a party, and to ensure that all individuals in its territory enjoy fully the rights recognized in those instruments;

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[521] Resolution 39/46, annex.

[522] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[523] See CD/1478.

(*g*) To liberalize the legal provisions on public order and to continue assimilation into a regular criminal justice system;

(*h*) To ensure full respect for freedom of religion and, in this respect, to consult fully with religious leaders and other parties concerned when considering any new legislation on religious activities, to remove obstacles to obtaining permission to construct religious buildings, to respect the sanctity of religious buildings and to resolve church property issues;

(*i*) To implement fully existing legislation, including the appeals procedures, that safeguards human rights and democracy, in particular the Associations and Political Parties Act;

(*j*) To raise the age of criminal responsibility for children in order to take into account the observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child;

(*k*) To implement the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners[524] and to continue to give special consideration to imprisoned women and juveniles;

(*l*) To take all effective measures to end and to prevent all acts of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, to take into account extenuating circumstances to the maximum extent possible, to ensure that all accused persons are held in ordinary custody and receive prompt, just and fair trials under internationally recognized standards, to investigate all reported human rights violations, including acts of torture, brought to its attention and to bring to justice those responsible for such violations;

(*m*) To ensure that capital punishment will not be imposed for crimes other than the most serious and will not be pronounced in disregard of the obligations assumed under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the provisions of United Nations safeguards;

(*n*) To take concrete measures to prevent and stop the abductions of women and children taking place within the framework of the conflict in southern Sudan, to bring to trial any persons suspected of supporting or participating in such activities, to support more strongly and more effectively the Committee for the Eradication of Abduction of Women and Children and to facilitate the safe return of affected children to their families as a matter of priority, in particular through the Committee for the Eradication of Abduction of Women and Children, with which all concerned have the responsibility and the duty to cooperate;

(*o*) To make concerted efforts to restrain the activities of the Murahaleen and to end the grave human rights abuses against civilians associated with their activities, to refrain from integrating them in the Sudanese army's military action and to stop financing and equipping them;

(*p*) To ensure full respect for the freedom of expression, opinion, thought, conscience and religion, as well as the freedom of association and assembly, throughout the territory of the Sudan;

(*q*) To continue to implement fully its commitment to the democratization process and the rule of law and to create, in this context, conditions that would allow for a democratization process that is genuine and that wholly reflects the aspirations of the people of the country and ensures their full participation;

(*r*) To make further efforts to implement the commitment made to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict not to recruit children under the age of 18 as soldiers;

(*s*) To make further efforts to address effectively the problem of internally displaced persons, including ensuring their access to effective protection and assistance;

(*t*) To consider the establishment of an independent national institution on human rights;

5. *Encourages*:

(*a*) The Government of the Sudan to continue its cooperation with the United Nations in the field of human rights through the Special Rapporteur and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and its expert in Khartoum entrusted with the task of advising the Government on the development of national capacity to promote and protect human rights, and to consider how to strengthen the role of the Office;

(*b*) The Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement to allow the people-to-people peace process to develop freely and unhindered, and to consider it an important contribution to the peace process;

6. *Calls upon* the international community to expand its support for activities aimed at improving respect for human rights and humanitarian law, in particular those of the Committee for the Eradication of Abduction of Women and Children, and to consider how to expand the Office of the High Commissioner to include a monitoring role;

7. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the situation of human rights in the Sudan at its fifty-seventh session, under the item entitled "Human rights questions", in the light of further elements provided by the Commission on Human Rights.

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[524] See *Human Rights: A Compilation of International Instruments*, volume I (First Part) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.XIV.1 (Vol. I, Part 1)).

RESOLUTION 56/176

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/583/Add.3, para. 48)[525]

56/176. Question of human rights in Afghanistan

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[526] the International Covenants on Human Rights[527] and accepted humanitarian rules, as set out in the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[528] and the Additional Protocols thereto, of 1977,[529]

Reaffirming that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and to fulfil the obligations they have freely undertaken under the various international instruments,

Recalling that Afghanistan is a party to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide,[530] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[527] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[527] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[531] the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[532] the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War[533] and the conventions of the International Labour Organization on equal remuneration (Convention No. 100) and on the abolition of forced labour (Convention No. 105), and recalling that it has signed the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[534]

Recalling also all its relevant resolutions, as well as the resolutions and presidential statements of the Security Council, the decisions of the Economic and Social Council, the resolutions and decisions of the Commission on Human Rights and the resolutions of the Commission on the Status of Women,

Recalling further Security Council resolutions 1333 (2000) of 19 December 2000 and 1378 (2001) of 14 November 2001 on the situation in Afghanistan,

Recalling Security Council resolutions 1296 (2000) of 19 April 2000 on the protection of civilians, 1379 (2001) of 20 November 2001 on children and armed conflict and 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 and the statement by the President of the Council of 31 October 2001,[535] on women, peace and security,

Expressing grave concern about the appalling proportions of the humanitarian crisis affecting the country,

Warmly welcoming the appointment by the Secretary-General of a Special Representative for Afghanistan, and endorsing the approach outlined by the Special Representative at the meeting of the Security Council on 13 November 2001,[536]

Affirming the essential role of the United Nations in supporting the efforts of the Afghan people to establish a new transitional administration leading to the formation of a Government, both of which:

(*a*) Should be broad-based, multi-ethnic and fully representative of all the Afghan people and committed to peace with the neighbours of Afghanistan,

(*b*) Should respect the human rights of all Afghan people, regardless of gender, ethnicity or religion,

(*c*) Should respect Afghanistan's international obligations, including by cooperating fully in international efforts to combat terrorism and illicit drug trafficking within and from Afghanistan,

(*d*) Should facilitate the urgent delivery of humanitarian assistance and the orderly return of refugees and internally displaced persons, when the situation permits,

Recognizing that the accountability of perpetrators, including their accomplices, of grave human rights violations is one of the central elements of any effective remedy for victims of human rights violations and a key factor in ensuring a fair and equitable justice system and, ultimately, reconciliation and stability within a State,

Stressing the importance of ensuring the full and effective participation of women in all decision-making processes regarding the future of Afghanistan,

1. *Welcomes* the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan[537] and the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its causes and consequences on her

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[525] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[526] Resolution 217 A (III).

[527] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[528] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[529] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

[530] Resolution 260 A (III).

[531] Resolution 39/46, annex.

[532] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[533] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[534] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[535] S/PRST/2001/31.

[536] See S/PV.4414.

[537] See A/56/409 and Add.1.

mission to Afghanistan[538] and the conclusions and recommendations contained therein;

2. *Strongly condemns*:

(*a*) The cases of summary execution committed by the Taliban at Yakawlang in January, May and June 2001;

(*b*) The widespread violations and abuses of human rights and international humanitarian law in Afghanistan, mainly by the Taliban, including the right to life, liberty and security of person, freedom from torture and from other forms of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, freedom of opinion, expression, religion, association and movement, and the recruitment and use of children in hostilities, contrary to international standards;

(*c*) The civilian massacres involving reprisal killings and summary executions following, in recent years, the taking and retaking of particular areas by warring parties;

(*d*) The frequent Taliban practice of arbitrary arrest and detention and of summary trials, which have resulted in summary executions throughout the country;

(*e*) The gross violations of the human rights of women and girls, including all forms of discrimination against them, notably in areas under the control of the Taliban where findings of further gross violations of the human rights of women and girls include abductions and kidnappings, as well as accounts of many instances of forced marriage and of trafficking;

3. *Strongly condemns also* the killing of foreign correspondents which occurred in Afghanistan in November 2001, reiterates its firm condemnation of the killing of Iranian diplomats and the correspondents of the Islamic Republic News Agency by the Taliban, as well as the attacks on and the killing of United Nations personnel in territories of Afghanistan at that moment under Taliban control, and calls upon all Afghan parties to cooperate in urgent investigations of those heinous crimes with a view to bringing to justice those responsible;

4. *Condemns* the Taliban authorities for allowing the continued use of Afghan territory for terrorist activities;

5. *Notes with deep concern* the existence of millions of Afghan refugees and their increased flow, while recognizing the huge burden shouldered by neighbouring countries, especially the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan, and appreciating the efforts undertaken in these host countries to ease the plight of Afghan refugees;

6. *Underlines* the importance of the fulfilment of obligations under international law, including human rights law, with regard to asylum-seekers;

7. *Expresses its concern* at the large number of internally displaced persons in Afghanistan and their situation, and encourages efforts to meet their protection and assistance needs in Afghanistan;

8. *Supports* the early development of a comprehensive strategy aimed at ensuring respect for human rights and humanitarian law, which would, inter alia, provide for a smooth transition from humanitarian assistance to rehabilitation and long-term sustainable development as well as for a durable solution for refugees and internally displaced persons, including their voluntary return in safety and with dignity, and calls upon the international community to provide additional assistance in this regard;

9. *Urges* all parties to work and cooperate fully with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan and the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan;

10. *Stresses* the need for national reconciliation and for the establishment of the rule of law, good governance and democracy in Afghanistan and, concurrently, the need for extensive rehabilitation and reconstruction;

11. *Strongly condemns* all acts of violence and intimidation against humanitarian personnel, and urges all Afghan parties to ensure the safety, security and free movement of all United Nations and associated personnel, as well as of the personnel of humanitarian organizations, to ensure their safe and unimpeded access to all affected populations and to guarantee the access of all Afghans to aid and to education and health facilities without discrimination on any grounds, including gender, ethnicity or religion;

12. *Calls upon* all Afghan parties:

(*a*) To respect fully all human rights and fundamental freedoms without discrimination on any grounds, including gender, ethnicity or religion, in accordance with international law;

(*b*) To refrain from summary and arbitrary executions and from acts of reprisal and to adhere strictly to their obligations under human rights instruments and international humanitarian law;

(*c*) To reaffirm publicly their commitment to respect fully humanitarian law and international human rights standards and to take all measures to protect the civilian population;

(*d*) To refrain from the recruitment or use of children in hostilities contrary to international standards and to take all necessary measures for the demobilization and social reintegration of war-affected children;

(*e*) To facilitate the provision of efficient and effective remedies to the victims of grave violations and abuses of human rights and of international humanitarian law and to bring the perpetrators to justice in accordance with international standards;

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[538] E/CN.4/2000/68/Add.4.

(*f*) To fulfil their obligations and commitments regarding the safety and security of all personnel and premises of diplomatic missions, the United Nations and other international organizations and non-governmental organizations, as well as all humanitarian supplies in Afghanistan, and to cooperate, fully and without discrimination on any grounds, including gender, nationality or religion, with the personnel of United Nations and associated bodies, as well as with those of other humanitarian organizations, agencies and non-governmental organizations;

(*g*) To treat all suspects and convicted or detained persons in accordance with relevant international law and to refrain from arbitrary detention in violation of international law;

13. *Also calls upon* all Afghan parties to respect fully the equal human rights and fundamental freedoms of women and girls in accordance with international human rights law and, in particular, consistent with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, to bring to an end, without delay, all violations of the human rights of women and girls and to take urgent measures to ensure:

(*a*) The repeal of any legislative and other measures in place that discriminate against women and girls and those that impede the realization of all their human rights;

(*b*) The full, equal and effective participation of women in civil, cultural, economic, political and social life throughout the country at all levels;

(*c*) Respect for the right of women to work and their reintegration into employment, including in the United Nations system and human rights organizations;

(*d*) The equal right of women and girls to education without discrimination, the reopening of schools and the admission of women and girls to all levels of education;

(*e*) Respect for the equal right of women and girls to security of person, and ensure that those responsible for physical attacks on women are brought to justice;

(*f*) Respect for the freedom of movement of women and girls;

(*g*) Respect for the effective and equal access of women and girls to the facilities necessary to protect their right to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health;

14. *Notes with appreciation* the activities carried out by the United Nations system, international and non-governmental organizations and the International Committee of the Red Cross throughout the territory of Afghanistan;

15. *Recalls* its invitation extended to the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to proceed without delay to investigate fully reports of summary executions and of rape and cruel treatment in Afghanistan, expresses deep regret for the lack of cooperation by Afghan parties which prevented effective investigations, and calls upon all parties to fulfil their stated commitment to cooperate with United Nations investigations;

16. *Invites* the relevant bodies of the United Nations to offer, as appropriate, advisory services and technical assistance in the area of human rights;

17. *Appeals* to Member States, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, specialized agencies and other international organizations:

(*a*) To ensure that all United Nations operations integrate a gender perspective, including in the selection of personnel for their management, and that women will benefit equally with men from such programmes;

(*b*) To implement the recommendations of the inter-agency gender mission to Afghanistan under the leadership of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women and to provide specific programmes for all Afghan women and girls to address their special needs and promote their human rights;

(*c*) To support the elements of civil society active in the field of human rights, in particular women's rights;

18. *Calls upon* the Afghan parties to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan and all other special rapporteurs who request invitations to visit Afghanistan, and to facilitate their access to all sectors of society and to all parts of the country;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To give all necessary assistance to the Special Rapporteur;

(*b*) To ensure, in consultation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the integration of a human rights capacity in the context of United Nations activities in Afghanistan;

20. *Invites* the Special Rapporteur to provide updates, as appropriate, of his reports on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan to the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights;

21. *Decides* to keep the situation of human rights in Afghanistan under consideration at its fifty-seventh session, in the light of additional elements provided by the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council.

RESOLUTION 56/177

Adopted at the 88th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/585, para. 7)[539]

56/177. Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Recalling the World Summit for Social Development, held at Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", held at Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,

Reaffirming that the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action[540] and the further initiatives for social development adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session[541] constitute the basic framework for the promotion of social development for all at the national and international levels,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[542]

Recalling also and reaffirming the commitments made at major United Nations conferences, special sessions, summit conferences and their follow-up processes, and the principles expressed in relevant United Nations declarations,

Recalling further its resolution 55/46 of 29 November 2000 on the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly,

1. *Reaffirms* the commitments made by heads of State and Government at the World Summit for Social Development, contained in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action,[540] which established a new consensus to place people at the centre of the concerns for sustainable development and pledged to eradicate poverty, promote full and productive employment and foster social integration so as to achieve stable, safe and just societies for all;

2. *Also reaffirms* the decisions on further action and initiatives to accelerate social development for all, adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session and contained in the further initiatives for social development;[541]

3. *Stresses* the vital importance of placing the goals of social development, as contained in the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action and in the further initiatives for social development, at the centre of economic policy-making, including in policies that influence domestic and global market forces and the global economy;

4. *Encourages* coordinated and mutually reinforcing follow-up to the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action, the further initiatives for social development and the United Nations Millennium Declaration, emphasizing the strong interrelatedness in respect of social development issues;

5. *Invites* the Secretary-General, the Economic and Social Council, the Commission for Social Development, the regional commissions, the relevant agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant intergovernmental forums, within their respective mandates, to take on a priority basis and in a coordinated manner all steps necessary to ensure the effective implementation of all commitments and undertakings contained in the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action and in the further initiatives for social development, and to continue to be actively involved in their follow-up;

6. *Recognizes* that the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly calls for the strengthening of cooperation at the regional level through, inter alia, the promotion of dialogue among regional and subregional groups and organizations, encouragement of the implementation of regional social development agendas where they exist, and encouragement of recipient countries, donor Governments and agencies and multilateral financial institutions to take greater account of the regional social development agendas of the regional commissions and of regional and subregional organizations, inter alia, in their funding policies and programmes;

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[539] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Senegal, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[540] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[541] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

[542] See resolution 55/2.

7. *Reaffirms* that a strong political commitment by the international community is needed to implement strengthened and effective international cooperation and assistance for development, including social development, and that the mobilization of domestic and international resources for development from all sources is an essential component of the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action and of the further initiatives for social development;

8. *Welcomes* the convening of the International Conference on Financing for Development, to be held at Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002, which will consider the mobilization of national and international resources for social development, and the World Summit on Sustainable Development, to be held at Johannesburg, South Africa, from 2 to 11 September 2002, and encourages their preparatory committees and other relevant intergovernmental bodies involved in the preparations for and follow-up to those conferences to give consideration to the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly;

9. *Reaffirms* that the follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly will be undertaken on the basis of an integrated approach to social development and within the framework of a coordinated follow-up to major international and summit conferences in the economic, social and related fields, and in this regard takes note of Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/21 of 26 July 2001 on integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits;

10. *Also reaffirms* the need for effective partnership and cooperation between Governments and the relevant actors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations and the private sector, in the implementation of and follow-up to the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action and the further initiatives for social development, and the need for ensuring their involvement in the planning, elaboration, implementation and evaluation of social policies at the national level;

11. *Further reaffirms* that the Commission for Social Development, as a functional commission of the Economic and Social Council, will continue to have the primary responsibility for the follow-up to and review of the further implementation of the commitments made at Copenhagen and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly;

12. *Invites* Governments to support the work of the Commission for Social Development, inter alia, through the participation of high-level representatives on social development issues and policies, and to continue to assess on a regular basis the progress made at the national level towards the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, and to submit such information on a voluntary basis to the Commission;

13. *Takes into account* the fact that the Commission for Social Development will consider the priority theme "Integration of social and economic policy" at its fortieth session, in 2002, and emphasizes the importance of the active participation in and contribution to the work of the Commission by the relevant funds and programmes and the specialized agencies of the United Nations system;

14. *Takes note* of the *Report on the World Social Situation, 2001*,[543] and requests the Secretary-General to submit future reports on a biennial basis;

15. *Also takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[544]

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly", and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on this question to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session.

RESOLUTION 56/228

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/573, para. 17)[545]

56/228. Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 54/24 of 10 November 1999 and its resolution 54/262 of 25 May 2000, by which it decided to convene the Second World Assembly on Ageing, to be held in Spain in April 2002, as well as its resolution 55/58 of 4 December 2000 on the Second World Assembly on Ageing,

Bearing in mind that, in its resolution 54/262, the General Assembly decided that the Commission for Social Development would serve as the preparatory committee for the Second World Assembly on Ageing,

Reiterating that the Second World Assembly should give particular attention, inter alia, to linkages between ageing and development, with particular attention to the needs, priorities and perspectives of developing countries,

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[543] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.01.IV.5.

[544] A/56/140.

[545] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Andorra, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Croatia, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Iran (Islamic Republic of) (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, San Marino, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine and Viet Nam.

Reaffirming the necessity of ensuring that the Second World Assembly will provide an action-oriented follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons, and recognizing the importance of an adequate preparatory process,

Affirming that the long-term strategy and revised plan of action on ageing to be adopted at the Second World Assembly should be realistic and relevant so that its implementation can be followed up effectively,

Reaffirming that the strategy and plan of action will contain realistic financial recommendations for implementation,

Aware of the need for the relevant bodies and agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to collaborate among themselves to support and follow up the implementation of the strategy and plan of action,

Recognizing the importance of the contributions of the relevant bodies and agencies of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations to the preparations for the Second World Assembly,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on preparations for the Second World Assembly on Ageing;[546]

2. *Recommends* that the preparatory committee give due consideration to the period to be covered by the long-term strategy and revised plan of action on ageing to be adopted at the Second World Assembly;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the full range of tasks of the United Nations programme on ageing of the Division for Social Policy and Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, with a view to ensuring, as a matter of urgency, that the programme can effectively fulfil its tasks, including those that might arise from the implementation of the outcome of the Second World Assembly;

4. *Invites* all relevant agencies and bodies of the United Nations system to coordinate better their response to the global ageing of populations and to integrate within their respective mandates their programmes and activities related to older persons, taking into account the importance of the perspective of older persons;

5. *Invites* the Second World Assembly to address, inter alia, the question of abuse of and discrimination against older persons;

6. *Invites* Member States, where appropriate, to consider extending the mandate of national committees or other mechanisms established on the occasion of the International Year of Older Persons in order to undertake national preparations for the Second World Assembly, and invites those Member States currently without such mechanisms to consider appropriate ways or mechanisms for their preparations for the Second World Assembly;

7. *Invites* the regional commissions, within their respective mandates, to explore the feasibility of undertaking regional activities with Member States, non-governmental organizations and other relevant actors of civil society in their region to participate in and follow up the Second World Assembly;

8. *Invites* the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat to continue, in cooperation with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the host country, the information campaign for the Second World Assembly;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/229

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/576, para. 36)[547]

56/229. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/70 of 4 December 2000 and its previous resolutions on the elimination of discrimination against women,

Bearing in mind that one of the purposes of the United Nations, as stated in Articles 1 and 55 of the Charter, is to promote universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction of any kind, including distinction as to sex,

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[546] A/56/152.

[547] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Affirming that women and men should participate equally in social, economic and political development, should contribute equally to such development and should share equally in improved conditions of life,

Recalling the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[548] in which the Conference reaffirmed that the human rights of women and the girl child were an inalienable, integral and indivisible part of universal human rights,

Acknowledging the need for a comprehensive and integrated approach to the promotion and protection of the human rights of women, which includes the integration of the human rights of women into the mainstream of United Nations activities system-wide,

Reaffirming the commitments made in the political declaration[549] and the outcome document[550] of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", in particular paragraphs 68 (*c*) and (*d*) concerning the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[551] and the Optional Protocol thereto,[552]

Recalling that, in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[553] heads of State and Government resolved to implement the Convention,

Welcoming the progress made in the implementation of the Convention, but expressing concern about the remaining challenges,

Welcoming also the growing number of States parties to the Convention, which now stands at one hundred and sixty-eight,

Welcoming further the entry into force on 22 December 2000 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

Bearing in mind the recommendation of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women that national reports should contain information on the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action,[554] in accordance with paragraph 323 of the Platform,

Having considered the report of the Committee on its twenty-fourth and twenty-fifth sessions,[555]

Expressing concern at the great number of reports that are overdue and that continue to be overdue, in particular initial reports, which constitutes an obstacle to the full implementation of the Convention,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General[556] on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;[551]

2. *Expresses disappointment* that universal ratification of the Convention was not achieved by 2000, and urges all States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention to do so;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of full compliance by States parties with their obligations under the Convention and the Optional Protocol thereto;[552]

4. *Welcomes* the rapidly growing number of State parties to the Optional Protocol, which now stands at twenty-eight, and urges other States parties to the Convention to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Optional Protocol;

5. *Also welcomes* the fact that the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women has adopted the rules governing its work under the Optional Protocol as part of its revised rules of procedure;[557]

6. *Notes* that some States parties have modified their reservations, expresses satisfaction that some reservations have been withdrawn, and urges States parties to limit the extent of any reservations that they lodge to the Convention, to formulate any such reservations as precisely and as narrowly as possible, to ensure that no reservations are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention or otherwise incompatible with international treaty law, to review their reservations regularly with a view to withdrawing them and to withdraw reservations that are contrary to the object and purpose of the Convention or that are otherwise incompatible with international treaty law;

7. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to make every possible effort to submit their reports on the implementation of the Convention in accordance with article 18

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[548] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[549] Resolution S-23/2, annex.

[550] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

[551] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[552] Resolution 54/4, annex.

[553] See resolution 55/2.

[554] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[555] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/56/38).

[556] A/56/328.

[557] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/56/38), annex I.

thereof and with the guidelines provided by the Committee and to cooperate fully with the Committee in the presentation of their reports;

8. *Encourages* the Secretariat to extend further technical assistance to States parties, upon their request, in the preparation of reports, in particular initial reports, and invites Governments to contribute to these efforts;

9. *Commends* the Committee on its contributions to the effective implementation of the Convention;

10. *Strongly urges* States parties to the Convention to take appropriate measures so that acceptance of the amendment to article 20, paragraph 1, of the Convention by a two-thirds majority of States parties can be reached as soon as possible so that the amendment may enter into force;

11. *Expresses its appreciation* for the additional meeting time that allows the Committee to hold two sessions annually, each session of three weeks' duration and each preceded by a pre-sessional working group of the Committee;

12. *Also expresses its appreciation* for the efforts made by the Committee to improve the efficiency of its working methods, and encourages further efforts in this regard;

13. *Acknowledges* the number of reports awaiting consideration by the Committee, and in this regard decides to authorize the Committee to hold, on an exceptional basis, an extraordinary session of three weeks' duration in 2002 to be used entirely for the consideration of the reports of the States parties in order to reduce the backlog of reports, and to enlarge the membership of the pre-sessional working group in 2002 to prepare for the exceptional session of the Committee, taking into account decision 25/I of the Committee;[558]

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 54/4 of 6 October 1999, to provide the resources, including staff and facilities, necessary for the effective functioning of the Committee within its full mandate, in particular taking into account the entry into force of the Optional Protocol;

15. *Urges* Governments, agencies and organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to disseminate the Convention and the Optional Protocol thereto;

16. *Encourages* all relevant entities of the United Nations system, within their mandates, as well as Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, in particular women's organizations, as appropriate, to continue to assist States parties, upon their request, in implementing the Convention, and in this regard encourages States parties to pay attention to the concluding comments as well as the general recommendations of the Committee;

17. *Encourages* all relevant entities of the United Nations system to continue to build women's knowledge and understanding of and capacity to utilize human rights instruments, in particular the Convention and the Optional Protocol thereto;

18. *Welcomes* the submission by the specialized agencies, at the invitation of the Committee, of reports on the implementation of the Convention in areas falling within the scope of their activities and the contribution of non-governmental organizations to the work of the Committee, and encourages the specialized agencies to continue to submit reports;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/230

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/583/Add.2, para. 109)[559]

56/230. Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/105 of 4 December 2000 concerning regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights,

Recalling also its resolutions 55/34 B of 20 November 2000 and 55/233 of 23 December 2000 and section III of its resolution 55/234 of 23 December 2000,

Recalling further the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights,[560]

1. *Welcomes* the creation of the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa at Yaoundé;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* the support given to the establishment of the Centre by the host country;

3. *Invites* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, under the direction of the

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[558] Ibid., part two, chap. I, sect. A.

[559] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Gambia, Haiti, Madagascar, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal and Sierra Leone.

[560] A/56/36/Add.1.

Secretary-General, to provide appropriate assistance to the Centre to ensure its efficiency and smooth functioning in accordance with section III of General Assembly resolution 55/234;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/231

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/583/Add.3, para. 48)[561]

56/231. Situation of human rights in Myanmar

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, as stated in the Charter of the United Nations and elaborated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[562] the International Covenants on Human Rights[563] and other applicable human rights instruments,

Aware that, in accordance with the Charter, the United Nations promotes and encourages respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that the will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government, and therefore expressing its grave concern that the Government of Myanmar has still not implemented its commitment to take all necessary steps towards democracy in the light of the results of the elections held in 1990,

Recalling its resolution 55/112 of 4 December 2000 and Commission on Human Rights resolution 1992/58 of 3 March 1992,[564] in which the Commission, inter alia, decided to nominate a special rapporteur with a given mandate, and taking note of Commission resolution 2001/15 of 18 April 2001,[565] in which the Commission decided to extend for one year the mandate of its Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar,

Recalling also the observation made by the former Special Rapporteur that the absence of respect for the rights pertaining to democratic governance is at the root of all major violations of human rights in Myanmar,

Still gravely concerned about the human rights situation in Myanmar, especially the suppression of the exercise of political rights and freedom of thought, expression, association and movement in Myanmar, and about restrictions placed on Aung San Suu Kyi and other members of the National League for Democracy, inter alia, on their freedom to function and to communicate with the outside world,

Gravely concerned that the legal system is effectively used as an instrument of oppression, inter alia, through the intimidation and detention of lawyers,

Recognizing that the systematic violations of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights by the Government of Myanmar have had a significant adverse effect on the health and welfare of the people of Myanmar,

Welcoming the three visits to Myanmar by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General during the past year, and the visits by the Special Rapporteur, as well as by the high-level team of the International Labour Organization, and the cooperation extended to them by the Government of Myanmar,

Cautiously encouraged by signs of progress in the ongoing political process in Myanmar, as reported by the Special Rapporteur, especially the release of political prisoners and the relaxation of some of the constraints governing the operation of legal political parties, but still concerned at the slow speed of the process,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Myanmar for his interim report[566] as well as his oral presentation;[567]

2. *Welcomes* the assistance extended to the Special Rapporteur by the Government of Myanmar during his exploratory visit in April 2001 and his first fact-finding mission in October 2001, which enabled him to establish direct contacts with the Government and all other relevant sectors of society, and calls upon the Government to continue to cooperate with the Special Rapporteur, to allow him to conduct further field missions, without preconditions, and to implement fully his recommendations;

3. *Also welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General[568] on the visits to the country of his Special Envoy for Myanmar, strongly endorses his efforts to help facilitate the

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[561] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[562] Resolution 217 A (III).

[563] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[564] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1992, Supplement No. 2* (E/1992/22), chap. II, sect. A.

[565] Ibid., *2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[566] See A/56/312.

[567] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Third Committee*, 35th meeting (A/C.3/56/SR.35), and corrigendum.

[568] A/56/505.

national reconciliation process among all interested parties in Myanmar, and encourages the Government of Myanmar to establish a constructive and regular dialogue with the Secretary-General in order to make better use of his good offices;

4. *Deplores* the continued violations of human rights in Myanmar, including extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, enforced disappearances, rape, torture, inhuman treatment, forced labour, including the use of children, forced relocation and denial of freedom of assembly, association, expression, religion and movement;

5. *Welcomes* the initiation of confidence-building contacts between the Government and Aung San Suu Kyi, General-Secretary of the National League for Democracy, and hopes that such talks will be extended at an appropriate time to include, among others, representatives of ethnic minorities, thereby facilitating broad-based and inclusive national reconciliation and the restoration of democracy;

6. *Expresses its concern* at the slow progress in the talks between the Government of Myanmar and Aung San Suu Kyi, General-Secretary of the National League for Democracy, and urges that the increasing development and progress of the confidence-building measures ensure the irreversibility of the process towards democracy;

7. *Recognizes* the steps taken by the Government of Myanmar to allow some political functions to be resumed by the opposition, including the reopening of some branch offices of political parties and the cessation of the negative media campaign, but expresses deep concern at the unnecessary and discriminatory stringent restrictions that continue to hamper political parties' freedom of assembly, association, expression, information and movement, as noted by the Special Rapporteur, as well as at the use by the Government of intimidatory methods such as arbitrary detention and abuse of the legal system, and calls for an early restoration of political rights and freedoms;

8. *Notes* the dissemination of human rights standards for public officials through a series of human rights workshops, and encourages the Government of Myanmar to widen participation in these workshops to ensure that this information, and its practical implementation, can benefit all citizens of Myanmar;

9. *Also notes* the establishment by the Government of Myanmar of a national human rights committee, and encourages it to bring this committee into conformity with the Principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights annexed to General Assembly resolution 48/134 of 20 December 1993 (the Paris Principles);

10. *Welcomes* the release from detention of a number of democratic political activists, and strongly urges the Government of Myanmar to release all remaining detained political leaders and all political prisoners, including journalists, to ensure their physical integrity and to permit them to participate in the process of national reconciliation;

11. *Notes with satisfaction* the continued cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross, allowing the Committee to communicate with and visit detainees in accordance with its modalities of work, and hopes that the programme will be pursued further;

12. *Welcomes* the reopening of most university courses, but remains concerned that enjoyment of the right to education continues to be limited, often for political reasons, by the reduction in the length of the academic year, the division of the student population and its dispersal to distant campuses and the inadequate allocation of resources;

13. *Strongly urges* the Government of Myanmar to take urgent and concrete measures to ensure the establishment of democracy in accordance with the will of the people as expressed in the democratic elections held in 1990 and, to this end, to extend the talks initiated with Aung San Suu Kyi, General-Secretary of the National League for Democracy, to encompass a genuine and substantive dialogue with all the leaders of political parties and of ethnic minorities, with the aim of achieving national reconciliation and the restoration of democracy, and to ensure that political parties and non-governmental organizations can function freely, and, in this context notes the existence of the committee representing the People's Parliament;

14. *Recalls* the resolution adopted by the International Labour Conference at its eighty-eighth session, held from 30 May to 15 June 2000, recommending that international organizations reconsider any cooperation with Myanmar and that Governments, employers and workers take appropriate measures to ensure that the Government of Myanmar could not take advantage of such relations to perpetuate or extend the system of forced or compulsory labour referred to by the Commission of Inquiry established to examine the observance by Myanmar of the International Labour Organization Convention concerning forced or compulsory labour (Convention No. 29) of 1930;

15. *Welcomes* the recent visit to Myanmar undertaken by the high-level team of the International Labour Organization, with the objective of assessing the practical implications and impact of measures taken by the Government to eradicate the practice of forced labour and the cooperation that was extended to the team by the Government of Myanmar;

16. *Notes with regret* that the conclusion of the high-level team was that there was only moderately positive evolution in the situation, since there have been only uneven efforts to disseminate the orders, since the orders have not been observed by the military at the local level and since, despite widespread instances of forced labour, there have been no criminal prosecutions, and that much more will have to be done

to address adequately the situation, including movement towards national reconciliation;

17. *Strongly urges* the Government of Myanmar to implement, in close cooperation with the International Labour Organization, concrete legislative, executive and administrative measures to eradicate the practice of forced labour, in conformity with the relevant recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry, and in this context endorses the recommendations of the high-level team, including the establishment of a long-term representation of the International Labour Organization in Myanmar and the creation of an ombudsman, and encourages the Government of Myanmar to pursue the dialogue with the Director-General of the International Labour Organization to this end;

18. *Deplores* the continued violations of human rights, in particular those directed against persons belonging to ethnic and religious minorities, including summary executions, rape, torture, forced labour, forced porterage, forced relocations, use of anti-personnel landmines, destruction of crops and fields and dispossession of land and property, which deprives those persons of all means of subsistence and results in large-scale displacement of persons and flows of refugees to neighbouring countries, with negative effects for those countries, and an increasing number of internally displaced persons;

19. *Urges* the Government of Myanmar to end the systematic enforced displacement of persons and other causes of refugee flows to neighbouring countries and to create conditions conducive to their voluntary return and full reintegration in conditions of safety and dignity and to allow the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel to assist in the return and reintegration process;

20. *Deplores* the continued violations of the human rights of women, especially women who are internally displaced or belong to ethnic minorities or the political opposition, in particular forced labour, trafficking, sexual violence and exploitation, including rape;

21. *Strongly urges* the Government of Myanmar to implement fully the recommendations made by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, in particular the request to prosecute and punish those who violate the human rights of women, and to carry out human rights education and gender-sensitization training, in particular for military personnel;

22. *Deplores* the recruitment of children as soldiers, in particular children belonging to ethnic minorities, and strongly urges the Government of Myanmar and all other parties to the hostilities in Myanmar to end the use of children as soldiers;

23. *Notes* that the Government of Myanmar is starting to address the growing incidence of infection with the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS), while recognizing that much still needs to be done, particularly in the area of HIV/AIDS prevention, and urges the Government of Myanmar to recognize fully the severity of the situation and the need to take necessary action against the disease, in cooperation with all relevant political and ethnic groups, and through the development of the United Nations joint plan of action on HIV/AIDS, to be delivered through non-governmental organizations or international agencies with a view to reaching the communities most affected and most vulnerable to HIV/AIDS infection;

24. *Urges* the Government of Myanmar to promote and protect the human rights of people living with HIV/AIDS and guard against the marginalization and discrimination that they may experience and to ensure that the health-care system receives sufficient funding to enable health workers to provide the highest possible standard of health care;

25. *Expresses its grave concern* at the high rates of malnutrition among pre-school-aged children, which constitutes serious violations of their rights to adequate food and the highest attainable standard of health and may have serious repercussions for the health and development of the affected children;

26. *Strongly urges* the Government of Myanmar to ensure full respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including economic and social rights, and to fulfil its obligation to restore the independence of the judiciary and due process and to end the impunity of and bring to justice any perpetrators of human rights violations, including members of the military, and to investigate and prosecute alleged violations committed by government agents in all circumstances;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his discussions on the situation of human rights and the restoration of democracy with the Government of Myanmar, to submit additional reports to the General Assembly during its fifty-sixth session on the progress of those discussions, and to report to the Assembly at its fifty-seventh session and to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-eighth session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

28. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this question at its fifty-seventh session.

RESOLUTION 56/232

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/582, para. 17),[569] by a recorded vote of 77 to 20, with 20 abstentions, as follows:

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[569] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Bolivia, Cambodia, Cameroon, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guatemala, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Mali, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Rwanda, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Viet Nam and Yemen.

In favour: Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

Against: Belgium, Canada, Chile, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Andorra, Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Cyprus, France, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Monaco, New Zealand, Portugal, Republic of Korea, San Marino, Slovakia, Spain, Yugoslavia

56/232. Use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/86 of 4 December 2000, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2001/3 of 6 April 2001,[570]

Recalling also all of its relevant resolutions, in which, inter alia, it condemned any State that permitted or tolerated the recruitment, financing, training, assembly, transit and use of mercenaries with the objective of overthrowing the Governments of States Members of the United Nations, especially those of developing countries, or of fighting against national liberation movements, and recalling further the relevant resolutions and international instruments adopted by the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council and the Organization of African Unity, inter alia, the Convention of the Organization of African Unity on the Elimination of Mercenarism in Africa,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations concerning the strict observance of the principles of sovereign equality, political independence, the territorial integrity of States, the self-determination of peoples, the non-use of force or of the threat of use of force in international relations and non-interference in affairs within the domestic jurisdiction of States,

Reaffirming also that, by virtue of the principle of self-determination, all peoples have the right freely to determine their political status and to pursue their economic, social and cultural development, and that every State has the duty to respect this right in accordance with the provisions of the Charter,

Reaffirming further the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[571]

Alarmed and concerned at the danger that the activities of mercenaries constitute to peace and security in developing countries, in particular in Africa and in small States,

Deeply concerned at the loss of life, the substantial damage to property and the negative effects on the policy and economies of affected countries resulting from criminal mercenary activities,

Convinced that, notwithstanding the way in which they are used or the form they take to acquire some semblance of legitimacy, mercenaries or mercenary-related activities are a threat to peace, security and the self-determination of peoples and an obstacle to the enjoyment of human rights by peoples,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination;[572]

2. *Reaffirms* that the use of mercenaries and their recruitment, financing and training are causes for grave concern to all States and violate the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations;

3. *Recognizes* that armed conflict, terrorism, arms trafficking and covert operations by third Powers, inter alia, encourage the demand for mercenaries on the global market;

4. *Urges* all States to take the necessary steps and to exercise the utmost vigilance against the menace posed by the activities of mercenaries and to take legislative measures to ensure that their territories and other territories under their control, as well as their nationals, are not used for the recruitment, assembly, financing, training and transit of mercenaries for the planning of activities designed to impede the right of peoples to self-determination, to destabilize or overthrow the Government of any State or to dismember or impair, totally or in part, the territorial integrity or political unity of sovereign and independent States conducting themselves in compliance with the right of peoples to self-determination;

5. *Welcomes* the recent entry into force of the International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries,[573] and calls upon all

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[570] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[571] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[572] See A/56/224.

[573] Resolution 44/34, annex.

States that have not yet done so to consider taking the necessary action to sign or ratify it, as a matter of priority;

6. *Welcomes also* the cooperation extended by those countries that have received visits from the Special Rapporteur;

7. *Welcomes further* the adoption by some States of national legislation that restricts the recruitment, assembly, financing, training and transit of mercenaries;

8. *Calls upon* States to investigate the possibility of mercenary involvement whenever and wherever criminal acts of a terrorist nature occur and to bring to trial those found responsible or to consider their extradition, if so requested, in accordance with domestic law and applicable bilateral or international treaties;

9. *Welcomes* the convening by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights of a meeting of experts on the question of traditional and new forms of mercenary activities as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination, and takes note of its report,[574] as a valuable contribution to the process of formulating a clearer legal definition of mercenaries that would make more efficient the prevention and punishment of mercenary activities;

10. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to convene, before the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on Human Rights, a second meeting of experts, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 54/151 of 17 December 1999, to continue studying and updating the international legislation and to make recommendations for a clearer legal definition of mercenaries that would make more efficient the prevention and punishment of mercenary activities;

11. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to propose a clearer definition of mercenaries, including clear nationality criteria, based on his findings, the proposals of States and the outcomes of the meetings of experts, and to make suggestions on the procedure to be followed for international adoption of a new definition;

12. *Requests* the Office of the High Commissioner, as a matter of priority, to publicize the adverse effects of the activities of mercenaries on the right of peoples to self-determination and, when requested and where necessary, to render advisory services to States that are affected by the activities of mercenaries;

13. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to continue taking into account in the discharge of his mandate the fact that mercenary activities continue to occur in many parts of the world and are taking on new forms, manifestations and modalities;

14. *Urges* all States to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur in the fulfilment of his mandate;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner to provide the Special Rapporteur with all the necessary assistance and support for the fulfilment of his mandate, both professional and financial, including through the promotion of cooperation between the Special Rapporteur and other components of the United Nations system that deal with countering mercenary-related activities;

16. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to consult States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in the implementation of the present resolution and to report, with specific recommendations, to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session his findings on the use of mercenaries to undermine the right of peoples to self-determination;

17. *Decides* to consider at its fifty-seventh session the question of the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination under the item entitled "Right of peoples to self-determination".

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[574] E/CN.4/2001/18, annex.

VI. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Fifth Committee

Contents

Resolution No.	*Title*	*Page*
56/214.	Financing of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon	411
56/233.	Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors	413
56/234.	Management of buildings: practices of selected United Nations system organizations relevant to the renovation of the United Nations Headquarters	413
56/235.	Report of the Joint Inspection Unit on policies and practices in the use of the services of private management consulting firms in the organizations of the United Nations system	413
56/236.	Enhancing the United Nations experience for visitors	414
56/237.	Development Account	414
56/238.	Proposed measures to improve the profitability of the commercial activities of the United Nations	415
56/239.	Information technology	416
56/240.	Programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001	416
	A. Final budget appropriations for the biennium 2000–2001	416
	B. Final income estimates for the biennium 2000–2001	419
56/241.	Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects	420
56/242.	Pattern of conferences	421
56/243.	Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations	426
56/244.	United Nations common system: report of the International Civil Service Commission	426
56/245.	Joint Inspection Unit	431
56/246.	Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services	432
56/247.	Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991	433
56/248.	Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994	435
56/249.	Financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor	437
56/250.	Financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea	438
56/251.	Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone	440
56/252.	Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo	441
56/253.	Questions relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003	443
56/254.	Programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003	468
	A. Budget appropriations for the biennium 2002–2003	468
	B. Income estimates for the biennium 2002–2003	471
	C. Financing of appropriations for the year 2002	471

VI. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Fifth Committee

Resolution No.	*Title*	*Page*
56/255.	Special subjects relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003	471
56/256.	Unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the biennium 2002–2003	474
56/257.	Working Capital Fund for the biennium 2002–2003	474

RESOLUTION 56/214

Adopted at the 91st plenary meeting, on 21 December 2001, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/722, para. 11),[1] by a recorded vote of 123 to 2, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: Israel, United States of America

Abstaining: Papua New Guinea, Tuvalu

56/214. Financing of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon for the period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002[2] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3]

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978, by which the Council established the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Force, the most recent of which was resolution 1365 (2001) of 31 July 2001,

Recalling its resolution S-8/2 of 21 April 1978 on the financing of the Force and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the most recent of which was resolution 55/180 B of 14 June 2001,

Reaffirming its resolutions 51/233 of 13 June 1997, 52/237 of 26 June 1998, 53/227 of 8 June 1999, 54/267 of 15 June 2000, 55/180 A of 19 December 2000 and 55/180 B,

Reaffirming also the general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations, as stated in General Assembly resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235 of 23 December 2000,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Force,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Force with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Concerned that the Secretary-General continues to face difficulties in meeting the obligations of the Force on a current basis, including reimbursement to current and former troop-contributing States,

Concerned also that the surplus balances in the Special Account for the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon have been used to meet expenses of the Force in order to compensate for the lack of income resulting from non-payment and late payment by Member States of their contributions,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon as at 15 November 2001, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 179.4 million United States dollars, representing 4 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Force up to the period ending 31 December 2001, notes that some 15.5 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States that have paid their assessed contributions in full and on time, and urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Force in full and on time;

3. *Expresses its deep concern* that Israel did not comply with General Assembly resolutions 51/233, 52/237, 53/227, 54/267, 55/180 A and 55/180 B;

4. *Stresses once again* that Israel should strictly abide by General Assembly resolutions 51/233, 52/237, 53/227, 54/267, 55/180 A and 55/180 B;

5. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

6. *Also expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored by the Islamic Republic of Iran (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

[2] A/56/431 and Corr.1.

[3] A/56/510 and Corr.1.

7. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

8. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

9. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Force;

10. *Takes note* of paragraph 11 of, and endorses the remaining conclusions and recommendations contained in, the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure full implementation;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Force is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Force against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Force;

13. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to ensure the full implementation of paragraph 8 of its resolution 51/233, paragraph 5 of its resolution 52/237, paragraph 11 of its resolution 53/227, paragraph 14 of its resolution 54/267, paragraph 14 of its resolution 55/180 A and paragraph 15 of its resolution 55/180 B, stresses once again that Israel shall pay the amount of 1,284,633 dollars resulting from the incident at Qana on 18 April 1996, and requests the Secretary-General to report on this matter to the Assembly at its resumed fifty-sixth session;

14. *Decides* to appropriate the amount of 137,257,440 dollars gross (133,375,991 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Force for the twelve-month period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002, inclusive of the amount of 642,540 dollars gross (594,091 dollars net) for the support account for peacekeeping operations, in addition to the amount of 6,021,721 dollars gross (5,284,652 dollars net) already appropriated for the support account for peacekeeping operations and the amount of 629,045 dollars gross (564,879 dollars net) already appropriated for the United Nations Logistics Base in its resolution 55/180 B, and inclusive of the amount of 99,548,960 dollars gross (97,558,500 dollars net) authorized in its resolution 55/180 B;

15. *Decides also*, taking into account the amount of 99,548,960 dollars gross (97,558,500 dollars net) already apportioned for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2001 and the amount of 6,650,766 dollars gross (5,849,531 dollars net) already apportioned for the period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002 in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 55/180 B, to apportion among Member States the amount of 6,820,197 dollars gross (6,464,658 dollars net) for the period from 1 to 31 January 2002 in accordance with the levels set out in its resolution 55/235, as adjusted in its resolution 55/236 of 23 December 2000, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 2002, as set out in its resolution 55/5 B of 23 December 2000;

16. *Decides further* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 15 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated additional staff assessment income of 355,539 dollars approved for the Force for the period from 1 to 31 January 2002;

17. *Decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of 30,888,283 dollars gross (29,352,833 dollars net) for the period from 1 February to 30 June 2002, at a monthly rate of 6,177,656 dollars gross (5,870,566 dollars net) in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 2002, as set out in its resolution 55/5 B, subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Force beyond 31 January 2002;

18. *Decides also* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 17 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated additional staff assessment income of 1,535,450 dollars net approved for the Force for the period from 1 February to 30 June 2002;

19. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

20. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Force;

21. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Force in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

22. *Decides* to keep under review during its fifty-sixth session, under the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East", the sub-item entitled "United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon".

RESOLUTION 56/233

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/651, para. 7)[4]

56/233. Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors

The General Assembly,

Having considered the audited financial statements and the report of the Board of Auditors on voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for the year ended 31 December 2000,[5] the report of the Board of Auditors on the implementation of its recommendations[6] relating to the biennium 1998–1999, the second report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors on the accounts of the United Nations and on the United Nations funds and programmes for the biennium ended 31 December 1999,[7] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[8]

1. *Accepts* the financial report and audited financial statements and the report and audit opinion of the Board of Auditors regarding the voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2000;[5]

2. *Endorses* the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its report[9] and the recommendations and conclusions contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[8]

3. *Welcomes* the second report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors on the accounts of the United Nations and on the United Nations funds and programmes for the biennium ended 31 December 1999[7] and the report of the Board of Auditors on the implementation of its recommendations;[6]

4. *Requests* the audited organizations to take all necessary steps to implement expeditiously the outstanding audit recommendations;

5. *Notes with concern* the qualified audit opinion on the financial statements of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and requests the audited organizations to cooperate fully with the Board of Auditors and to submit the requested information and documentation in a comprehensive and timely manner so that this does not lead in future to similar qualified opinions.

RESOLUTION 56/234

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/652, para. 8)[10]

56/234. Management of buildings: practices of selected United Nations system organizations relevant to the renovation of the United Nations Headquarters

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Management of buildings: practices of selected United Nations system organizations relevant to the renovation of the United Nations Headquarters"[11] and the comments of the Secretary-General thereon,[12]

1. *Welcomes* the comprehensive and timely preparation of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit;[11]

2. *Endorses* the report of the Unit, and requests the Secretary-General to take full account of its recommendations and findings when elaborating the capital master plan, without prejudice to the future consideration by the General Assembly of the report of the Secretary-General on the capital master plan;

3. *Decides* to revert to the consideration of the report of the Unit and the comments of the Secretary-General thereon[12] within the context of its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on the capital master plan, requested by the General Assembly in section IV of its resolution 55/238 of 23 December 2000.

RESOLUTION 56/235

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/652, para. 8)[13]

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[4] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[5] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 5E* (A/56/5/Add.5).

[6] A/56/132, appendix.

[7] A/56/66 and Add.1.

[8] A/56/436.

[9] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 5E* (A/56/5/Add.5), chap. I.

[10] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[11] See A/56/274.

[12] See A/56/274/Add.1.

[13] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

56/235. Report of the Joint Inspection Unit on policies and practices in the use of the services of private management consulting firms in the organizations of the United Nations system

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/232 of 23 December 2000 and 55/247 of 12 April 2001,

Having considered the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on policies and practices in the use of the services of private management consulting firms in the organizations of the United Nations system[14] and the note by the Secretary-General transmitting his comments as well as those of the Administrative Committee on Coordination thereon,[15]

1. *Endorses* the elements contained in paragraphs (*b*) and (*d*) of recommendation 1, and recommendations 2, 3, 4 and 5 of the Joint Inspection Unit;[14]

2. *Invites* the Secretary-General and participating organizations of the United Nations system, when addressing the issues raised in paragraphs (*a*) and (*c*) of recommendation 1, and in recommendations 6, 7 and 8 of the Unit and using the services of private management consulting firms, to take fully into account the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions 55/232 and 55/247.

RESOLUTION 56/236

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/653, para. 12)[16]

56/236. Enhancing the United Nations experience for visitors

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General containing his proposal for enhancing the United Nations experience for visitors,[17]

Having also considered the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[18]

1. *Welcomes* the initiatives of the United Nations Association of the United States of America, the prospective donor, as described in the report of the Secretary-General,[17] to mobilize resources in order to provide new facilities for the visitors' experience in the form of a donation in kind to the United Nations;

2. *Endorses* the observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in its report;[18]

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the development of the proposed visitors' experience project is fully integrated with the capital master plan, including necessary security measures;

4. *Decides* that a decision on this question should be taken in the light of any further decision on the capital master plan;

5. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to invite the United Nations Association of the United States of America to proceed with the preparation of a schematic design for the new visitors' experience, taking into account the four conditions set out in the report of the Secretary-General,[19] which are highlighted in the report of the Advisory Committee,[20] on the understanding that it will be for the General Assembly to declare itself satisfied with the fulfilment of these conditions;

6. *Notes* the desirability of expanding the number of potential contributors to the project by including the United Nations Associations of other countries;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to evaluate the proposed financial and fiscal aspects of the donation, in view of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations and in the light of the capital master plan, taking into account the eventual financial implications for the Organization, and to report thereon to the General Assembly;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit, when practicable, for the consideration of the General Assembly, a comprehensive report on the outcome of the schematic design; options for deciding on the final scale of the project; projected revenues and the cost of operating and maintaining the new visitors' experience; proposals for expanded commercial activities; options for operating methodologies; means of adjusting to changing situations; procedures for the operation of the proposed capital improvement fund; and a time-line for implementation.

RESOLUTION 56/237

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/653, para. 12)[21]

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[14] See A/54/702.

[15] A/55/979.

[16] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[17] A/55/835.

[18] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 7* (A/56/7), chap. I, sect. E.8, paras. 103–113.

[19] A/55/835, para. 20.

[20] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 7* (A/56/7), chap. I, sect. E.8, para. 107.

[21] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

56/237. Development Account

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/12 B of 19 December 1997 and 52/220 and 52/221 A of 22 December 1997,

Reaffirming its resolutions 52/235 of 26 June 1998, 53/220 A of 7 April 1999, 53/220 B of 8 June 1999 and 54/15 of 29 October 1999,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of projects financed from the Development Account,[22] including the observations of the Office of Internal Oversight Services in section V thereof, and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[23]

1. *Expresses concern* at the low implementation rate of the projects undertaken through the Development Account;

2. *Urges* a more expeditious and effective rate of implementation of projects, and requests that project proposals include all costs, including support costs, and whether or not they are financed from the Development Account;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his next report the date of commencement, the implementing agency and the anticipated dates of completion of all ongoing projects and to provide explanations for any schedule changes in the completion of these projects;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to intensify efforts to enhance efficiency measures that may result in sustainable savings, with a view to augmenting the Development Account, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 54/15;

5. *Reaffirms* that projects financed from the Development Account should be implemented in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 53/220 A and 53/220 B;

6. *Welcomes* the fact that the implementation of the approved projects financed from the Development Account has a developmental impact on a country, is cost-effective, in particular through the use of information and communication technology, and is jointly designed and carried out by several entities of the United Nations;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to monitor the implementation rate of the projects, with a view to identifying those projects that are underperforming and the causes, and to submit proposals to correct this situation or to redeploy funds from such projects to those that are delivering results;

8. *Decides* to continue to keep the implementation of the Development Account under review, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on the subject to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session.

RESOLUTION 56/238

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/653, para. 12)[24]

56/238. Proposed measures to improve the profitability of the commercial activities of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/232 of 23 December 2000,

Recalling also the international and non-commercial character of the Organization,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the proposed measures to improve the profitability of the commercial activities of the United Nations[25] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[26]

1. *Notes with satisfaction* the report of the Secretary-General,[25] and endorses the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions thereon;[26]

2. *Notes* the proposal to separate the management of the commercial activities from the other activities of the Organization, and requests the Secretary-General to submit detailed information on this proposal and its administrative and financial implications;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to elaborate on this proposal by means of a blueprint concerning the specific commercial goals of the Organization and the steps that should be taken to achieve them, in particular the use of outsourcing, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 55/232 and its resolution 55/247 of 12 April 2001, and the optimum use of space within the United Nations buildings;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to make proposals to streamline and simplify the administration and management structure underpinning those activities;

5. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit for the consideration of the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh

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[22] A/55/913.

[23] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No.7* (A/56/7), chap. II, sect. A, paras. XIII.1-XIII.5.

[24] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[25] A/55/546.

[26] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 7* (A/56/7), chap. II, sect. B, paras. IS3.5–13.

session a single report containing the information requested in the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/239

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/653, para. 12)[27]

56/239. Information technology

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 54/249 of 23 December 1999, by which it requested the Secretary-General to develop a comprehensive strategy for the development and implementation of information technology,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Information technology in the Secretariat: a plan of action",[28] and endorses the observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions thereon;[29]

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to resubmit the plan of action, taking into account the provisions of paragraph 1 above and:

(*a*) Developing a specific plan to improve efficiency through the application of information technology in the Secretariat and the action required to implement it;

(*b*) Defining clearly the responsibilities of the different bodies in the application and integration of information technology within the United Nations;

(*c*) Addressing the objective of improving decision-making with respect to information technology in the Secretariat by improving coordination and reducing duplication;

(*d*) Developing a cost-benefit analysis for use in identifying information technology priorities;

(*e*) Developing an implementation plan for those priorities;

3. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit for the consideration of the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a single report containing the information requested in the present resolution.

RESOLUTIONS 56/240 A and B

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/735, para. 6)[30]

56/240. Programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001

A

FINAL BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE BIENNIUM 2000–2001

The General Assembly

1. *Takes note* of the second performance report of the Secretary-General on the programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001[31] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[32]

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep Member States informed of regular budget expenditures on a quarterly basis;

3. *Decides*, in the light of the critical financial situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, to retain in the programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001, 650,000 United States dollars of the original provision of 800,000 dollars made pursuant to General Assembly resolution 55/219 of 23 December 2000, and requests the Secretary-General to disburse the provision in December 2001 as a subvention to be credited to the United Nations Trust Fund for the Institute, so as to ensure the continuation of its operations in 2002;

4. *Resolves* that, for the biennium 2000–2001, the amount of 2,533,125,400 United States dollars appropriated under its resolution 55/239 A of 23 December 2000 shall be augmented by a commitment authority of 28,452,600 dollars, as follows:

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[27] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[28] A/55/780.

[29] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 7* (A/56/7), chap. I, sect. E, paras. 80–94.

[30] The draft resolutions recommended in the report were introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[31] A/56/674.

[32] A/56/694.

Section			Amount approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/239 A	Provisional increase/decrease	Revised appropriation and commitment authority
			(United States dollars)		
Part I.	*Overall policy-making, direction and coordination*				
	1.	Overall policy-making, direction and coordination	48 013 100	(2 543 300)	45 469 800
	2.	General Assembly affairs and conference services	409 024 100	36 844 600	445 868 700
		Total, part I	**457 037 200**	**34 301 300**	**491 338 500**
Part II.	*Political affairs*				
	3.	Political affairs	167 844 700	(6 095 700)	161 749 000
	4.	Disarmament	13 820 900	345 000	14 165 900
	5.	Peacekeeping operations	74 884 000	(4 067 600)	70 816 400
	6.	Peaceful uses of outer space	3 313 500	136 400	3 449 900
		Total, part II	**259 863 100**	**(9 681 900)**	**250 181 200**
Part III.	*International justice and law*				
	7.	International Court of Justice	20 606 700	1 642 000	22 248 700
	8.	Legal affairs	33 880 600	(343 200)	33 537 400
		Total, part III	**54 487 300**	**1 298 800**	**55 786 100**
Part IV.	*International cooperation for development*				
	9.	Economic and social affairs	112 431 800	1 718 600	114 150 400
	10.	Africa: New Agenda for Development	5 859 800	(641 200)	5 218 600
	11A.	Trade and development	81 373 600	1 126 200	82 499 800
	11B.	International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO	17 009 800	247 000	17 256 800
	12.	Environment	8 100 900	495 900	8 596 800
	13.	Human settlements	12 297 300	2 607 900	14 905 200
	14.	Crime prevention and criminal justice	4 821 300	3 900	4 825 200
	15.	International drug control	13 718 200	309 500	14 027 700
		Total, part IV	**255 612 700**	**5 867 800**	**261 480 500**
Part V.	*Regional cooperation for development*				
	16.	Economic and social development in Africa	80 645 000	(9 163 500)	71 481 500
	17.	Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific	54 411 200	(511 300)	53 899 900
	18.	Economic development in Europe	37 414 600	1 748 500	39 163 100
	19.	Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean	75 584 100	1 287 900	76 872 000
	20.	Economic and social development in Western Asia	48 581 400	(2 883 200)	45 698 200
	21.	Regular programme of technical cooperation	41 254 800	(44 400)	41 210 400
		Total, part V	**337 891 100**	**(9 566 000)**	**328 325 100**

Section	*Amount approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/239 A*	*Provisional increase/decrease*	*Revised appropriation and commitment authority*
		(United States dollars)	
Part VI. *Human rights and humanitarian affairs*			
22. Human rights	39 067 700	(102 400)	38 965 300
23. Protection of and assistance to refugees	38 838 900	1 546 400	40 385 300
24. Palestine refugees	23 175 400	1 139 300	24 314 700
25. Humanitarian assistance	18 447 900	(53 800)	18 394 100
Total, part VI	**119 529 900**	**2 529 500**	**122 059 400**
Part VII. *Public information*			
26. Public information	142 534 500	(1 252 400)	141 282 100
Total, part VII	**142 534 500**	**(1 252 400)**	**141 282 100**
Part VIII. *Common support services*			
27. Management and central support services	433 569 100	4 391 900	437 961 000
A. Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Management	11 380 200	(6 100)	11 374 100
B. Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts	22 209 800	552 700	22 762 500
C. Office of Human Resources Management	47 977 900	1 188 700	49 166 600
D. Office of Central Support Services	229 817 700	903 800	230 721 500
E. Administration, Geneva	84 412 400	485 300	84 897 700
F. Administration, Vienna	23 553 500	298 400	23 851 900
G. Administration, Nairobi	14 217 600	969 100	15 186 700
Total, part VIII	**433 569 100**	**4 391 900**	**437 961 000**
Part IX. *Internal oversight*			
28. Internal oversight	18 750 700	(493 900)	18 256 800
Total, part IX	**18 750 700**	**(493 900)**	**18 256 800**
Part X. *Jointly financed administrative activities and special expenses*			
29. Jointly financed administrative activities	8 020 500	(415 400)	7 605 100
30. Special expenses	54 511 700	(1 135 500)	53 376 200
Total, part X	**62 532 200**	**(1 550 900)**	**60 981 300**
Part XI. *Capital expenditures*			
31. Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance	49 767 300	(365 700)	49 401 600
Total, part XI	**49 767 300**	**(365 700)**	**49 401 600**
Part XII. *Staff assessment*			
32. Staff assessment	328 485 300	2 974 100	331 459 400
Total, part XII	**328 485 300**	**2 974 100**	**331 459 400**
Part XIII. *Development Account*			
33. Development Account	13 065 000	–	13 065 000
Total, part XIII	**13 065 000**	**–**	**13 065 000**
Grand total	**2 533 125 400**	**28 452 600**	**2 561 578 000**

5. *Notes* the request of the Secretary-General that the revised appropriation should be increased by 28,452,600 dollars, and decides, keeping in mind the need for precision in determining the required final level of appropriations and assessments, that it will revert to consideration of the final appropriation at its resumed fifty-sixth session in March 2002;

6. *Resolves* that:

(*a*) The Secretary-General shall be authorized to transfer credits between sections of the budget, with the concurrence of the Advisory Committee;

(*b*) In addition to the commitment authority approved under paragraph 4 above, an amount of 250,000 dollars is appropriated for each year of the biennium 2000–2001 from the accumulated income of the Library Endowment Fund for the purchase of books, periodicals, maps and library equipment and for such other expenses of the Library at the Palais des Nations as are in accordance with the objects and provisions of the endowment.

B

FINAL INCOME ESTIMATES FOR THE BIENNIUM 2000–2001

The General Assembly

Resolves that for the biennium 2000–2001:

(*a*) The estimates of income of 380,822,700 United States dollars approved under its resolution 55/239 B of 23 December 2000 shall provisionally be decreased by 1,149,200 dollars, as follows:

Income sections	*Amount approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/239 B*	*Provisional increase/decrease*	*Provisional income estimate*
		(United States dollars)	
1. Income from staff assessment	333 125 200	1 903 900	335 029 100
Total, income section 1	**333 125 200**	**1 903 900**	**335 029 100**
2. General income	42 728 600	997 100	43 725 700
3. Services to the public	4 968 900	(4 050 200)	918 700
Total, income sections 2 and 3	**47 697 500**	**(3 053 100)**	**44 644 400**
Grand total	**380 822 700**	**(1 149 200)**	**379 673 500**

(*b*) The income from staff assessment shall be credited to the Tax Equalization Fund in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955;

(*c*) Direct expenses of the United Nations Postal Administration, services to visitors, catering and related services, garage operations, television services and the sale of publications, not provided for under the budget appropriations, shall be charged against the income derived from those activities.

RESOLUTION 56/241

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/738, para. 5)[33]

56/241. Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects

The General Assembly,

Having considered the statement submitted by the Secretary-General on the comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations[34] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[35]

Taking account of the report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations on the comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects,[36]

Recalling its resolutions 45/258 of 3 May 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 48/226 A of 23 December 1993, 48/226 B of 5 April 1994, 48/226 C of 29 July 1994, 49/250 of 20 July 1995, 50/11 of 2 November 1995, 50/221 A of 11 April 1996, 50/221 B of 7 June 1996, 51/226 of 3 April 1997, 51/239 A of 17 June 1997, 51/239 B and 51/243 of 15 September 1997, 52/220 of 22 December 1997, 52/234 and 52/248 of 26 June 1998, 53/12 A of 26 October 1998, 53/208 B of 18 December 1998, 53/12 B of 8 June 1999, 54/243 A of 23 December 1999, 54/243 B of 15 June 2000, 55/238 of 23 December 2000 and 55/271 of 14 June 2001 and its decisions 48/489 of 8 July 1994, 49/469 of 23 December 1994 and 50/473 of 23 December 1995,

Noting with appreciation the comments and observations contained in paragraph 6 of the report of the Advisory Committee,[35] concerning the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations and the determination of resources, and in paragraph 26, concerning the role and responsibilities of the head of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat and his senior staff in the area of management,

1. *Attaches* great importance to the provision of adequate resources for peacekeeping operations and their backstopping as well as for all priority activities of the Organization, in particular activities in the area of development, and underlines the need for genuine and meaningful partnership between the Security Council, the troop-contributing Governments and other Member States and the Secretariat;

2. *Reaffirms* that the expenses of the Organization, including the backstopping of peacekeeping operations, shall be borne by Member States;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, when making first-time use of the results-based budgeting technique in the presentation of the support account budget estimates for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003, to undertake a complete rethinking of how post and non-post resources for the support account are justified and presented and, in this regard, to take full account of paragraphs 9 and 10 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[35]

4. *Reaffirms* the decision in paragraph 2 of its resolution 49/250 that the support account funds shall be used for the sole purpose of financing human and non-human resource requirements for backstopping and supporting peacekeeping operations at Headquarters, and that any changes to this limitation will require the prior approval of the General Assembly;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to review the issue of capacity in the Peacekeeping Best Practices Unit for policy support in peacekeeping operations in the area of demobilization, disarmament and reintegration, taking into account the views of the Advisory Committee;

6. *Stresses* that the creation of small units in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to fulfil various functions which duplicate the responsibilities of other departments must be avoided, and shares the caution expressed by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions that an increase in the number of organizational units in the Department does not necessarily facilitate coordination or enhance administrative and management capacity;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prevent duplication of work between the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat and to further clarify the relationships and interactions between the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and other offices in the Department of Management of the Secretariat, especially those dealing with personnel, financial administration and control, management of procurement activities and monitoring of delegated authority;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report, in the context of the annual support account budget estimates, on action taken by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to develop and implement a comprehensive information technology systems strategy that integrates field missions with the Secretariat's overall information and communication technology strategy;

9. *Expresses concern* about the effect of scattering the units of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations in a number of different physical locations on its operational effectiveness, and requests the Secretary-General to investigate

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[33] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[34] A/C.5/55/46 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

[35] A/56/478.

[36] A/55/1024 and Corr.1.

and report on ways and means of achieving co-location of such units;

10. *Also expresses concern* over the delay in the recruitment and staffing of the 93 support account posts approved in December 2000 on an urgent basis;

11. *Reaffirms* section I, paragraph 6, of its resolution 55/238, in which it agreed with paragraph 36 of the report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations[37] relating to proper representation of troop-contributing countries in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations;

12. *Expresses concern* over the imbalance in the geographical representation of Member States in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, and urges the Secretary-General to take immediate measures to improve the representation of under-represented and unrepresented Member States in future recruitment;

13. *Also expresses concern* over the lack of compliance by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations with the rules, regulations and procedures pertaining to human resources management, and in this regard reaffirms the role of the Office of Human Resources Management of the Secretariat as set out in General Assembly resolutions 53/221 of 7 April 1999 and 55/258 of 14 June 2001, in particular the General Assembly decision that the Office of Human Resources Management should remain the central authority for the monitoring and approval of the recruitment and placement of staff and for the interpretation of the regulations and rules of the Organization and their enforcement;

14. *Welcomes* the emphasis on training, planning and establishment of rosters, which would provide the capacity to manage and monitor personnel actions in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Office of Human Resources Management, and encourages the utilization of information technology in reducing the current recruitment period below 180 days;

15. *Regrets* the inordinate delay in the certification of write-off claims from some liquidated peacekeeping operations, and requests the Secretary-General to finalize the certification of those claims by 30 June 2002 and to submit a progress report on this issue to the General Assembly at its resumed fifty-sixth session;

16. *Urges* the Secretary-General to give priority to the reimbursement of claims from liquidated missions, including maintaining adequate reserves to settle claims once certified;

17. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee,[35] subject to the provisions of the present resolution, and decides not to establish at this time the D-2 post of Director of Change Management mentioned in paragraph 28 of the report of the Advisory Committee and to keep the matter under review for consideration at the second part of its resumed fifty-sixth session, and, in the light of the development of a coherent policy, to review the P-5 post for gender issues at the second part of its resumed fifty-sixth session;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to entrust the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the Secretariat with the task of conducting an evaluation of the impact of the recent restructuring of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations on its backstopping of peacekeeping operations performance, and the impact on efficient and effective use of the resources of the Department, and to report to the General Assembly at its resumed fifty-sixth session;

19. *Decides* to appropriate an additional amount of 1,575,700 United States dollars under the following sections of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003: 376,400 dollars under section 3, Political affairs; 888,800 dollars under section 22, Human rights; 127,900 dollars under section 27, Management and central support services; and 182,600 dollars under section 32, Staff assessment, to be offset by a corresponding amount (182,600 dollars) under income section 1, Income from staff assessment, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003;

20. *Approves* an additional 121 support account-funded posts and their related post and non-post requirements in the amount of 16,103,750 dollars gross (14,889,500 dollars net) for the period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to conduct, through the Office of Internal Oversight Services, an audit of the policies and procedures of the Organization for recruiting staff for the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and to report thereon to the General Assembly for its consideration at its resumed fifty-sixth session.

RESOLUTION 56/242

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/737, para. 6)[38]

56/242. Pattern of conferences

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 40/243 of 18 December 1985, 41/213 of 19 December 1986, 43/222 A to E of 21 December 1988, 50/11 of 2 November

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[37] A/C.4/55/6.

[38] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

1995, 54/248 of 23 December 1999 and 55/222 of 23 December 2000,

Having considered the report of the Committee on Conferences[39] and the reports of the Secretary-General,[40]

Having also considered the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[41]

Reiterates the provisions of its resolutions 51/211 A to E of 18 December 1996, 52/214 of 22 December 1997, 53/208 A to E of 18 December 1998, 54/248 and 55/222;

I

Calendar of conferences and meetings

1. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Committee on Conferences, and endorses the recommendations contained in its report,[39] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

2. *Approves* the draft biennial calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for 2002–2003, as submitted by the Committee on Conferences,[42] taking into account the observations of the Committee,[43] and subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Authorizes* the Committee on Conferences to make any adjustments to the calendar of conferences and meetings for 2002–2003 that may become necessary as a result of actions and decisions taken by the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

4. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Secretariat took into account the arrangements referred to in General Assembly resolutions 53/208 A, 54/248 and 55/222 concerning Orthodox Good Friday and the official holidays of Id al-Fitr and Id al-Adha, and requests all intergovernmental bodies to observe those decisions when planning their meetings;

5. *Reaffirms* its decision that the headquarters rule shall be adhered to by all bodies, and decides that waivers to the headquarters rule shall be granted solely on the basis of the calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations as recommended by the Committee on Conferences for adoption by the General Assembly;

6. *Also reaffirms* the general principle established in the headquarters rule and, in particular, that all meetings related to the environment and to human settlements that are organized by the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), respectively, should be held at Nairobi, headquarters of the Programme and Habitat;

7. *Further reaffirms* the relevant provisions established by the General Assembly in its resolution 50/11 on multilingualism;

8. *Requests* the Committee on Conferences and the Secretary-General, when planning the calendar of conferences and meetings, to avoid simultaneous peak periods at the various duty stations and to avoid scheduling meetings of related intergovernmental bodies too closely together;

II

Utilization of conference-servicing resources and facilities

1. *Approves* the guidelines on limiting meeting duration contained in the annex to the present resolution;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to enhance further the established practice of workload sharing among duty stations in documentation services as a means to improve the utilization of conference-servicing resources, and to include information on these efforts in the context of a single, comprehensive report to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

3. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, bearing in mind the recent organizational changes, to ensure that the Department of General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services of the Secretariat is considered the appropriate executive authority to oversee, coordinate and enhance the global management and delivery of United Nations conference services, under the legislative authority of the General Assembly and through oversight and examination by the Committee on Conferences;

4. *Reaffirms* the terms of reference and main functions of the Committee on Conferences as formulated in section I, paragraph 1, of resolution 41/213 and in resolution 43/222 B;

5. *Welcomes* the improved participation of observers in the work of the Committee on Conferences, the changes in the procedure governing the participation of observers and the decision of the Committee to keep this procedure under review;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the mechanisms available for addressing the concerns of Member States about the efficiency, quality and delivery of conference services, including information about the way in which the concerns of Member States are recorded and reported, and on the grouping of these issues in reports to the General Assembly;

7. *Welcomes* the establishment of a permanent interpretation service at the United Nations Office at Nairobi,

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[39] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 32* (A/56/32).

[40] A/56/120/Rev.1, A/56/133 and Corr.1, A/56/188, A/56/213 and Corr.1, A/56/277, A/56/293, A/56/299, A/56/300, A/56/339 and A/AC.198/2001/8.

[41] A/56/475.

[42] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 32* (A/56/32), annex.

[43] Ibid., paras. 22 and 23.

and notes with satisfaction that the conference-servicing facility at the United Nations Office at Nairobi is becoming organizationally, functionally and in terms of the budget an integral part of the Department of General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services;

8. *Notes with appreciation* the increase in the number of multilingual meetings to be held at the United Nations Office at Nairobi and with the participation of the Nairobi interpretation team elsewhere in 2001 and 2002, as well as the cost-saving effect of the establishment of the Nairobi interpretation service for the regular budget in terms of temporary assistance;

9. *Emphasizes* the importance of providing adequate conference-servicing resources to all United Nations conference centres, for the effective and efficient discharge of their mandates;

10. *Notes* the improvement in the rate of utilization of conference facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi, as recorded during the most recent reporting period;

11. *Urges* all subsidiary bodies of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Commission on Human Settlements, and encourages Member States, intergovernmental bodies and regional and other major groupings, to increase their use of the conference facilities at Nairobi;

12. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to assist the bodies mentioned in paragraph 11 of the present section in improving this situation, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session, through the Committee on Conferences, on the actions taken to that end;

13. *Encourages* all United Nations bodies and expert groups not subject to the headquarters rule to hold some of their meetings at the United Nations Office at Nairobi;

14. *Strongly discourages* any invitation for hosting meetings which would violate the headquarters rule, in particular for United Nations centres with a low utilization level;

15. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to intensify efforts being made by the United Nations Office at Nairobi to attract more meetings to its facilities;

16. *Reiterates its request* to the Committee on Conferences to consult with those bodies that consistently utilized less than the applicable benchmark figure of their allocated resources for the past three sessions with a view to making appropriate recommendations in order to achieve the optimum utilization of conference-servicing resources;

17. *Reiterates* that meetings of Charter and mandated bodies must be serviced as a priority;

18. *Decides* to include all necessary resources in the budget for the biennium 2002–2003 to provide interpretation services for meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States upon request by those groups, on an ad hoc basis, in accordance with established practice, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session, through the Committee on Conferences, a report on the implementation of this decision;

19. *Notes* the importance of meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States for the smooth functioning of the sessions of intergovernmental bodies, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that, as far as possible, all requests for conference services for meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States are met;

20. *Notes with concern* the difficulties experienced by some Member States owing to the lack of conference services for some meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide information on meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States not serviced by conference services in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003;

22. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, when preparing budget proposals for conference services, to ensure that the level of resources proposed for temporary assistance is commensurate with the full demand for services, estimated on the basis of current experience;

23. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to continue to report on the utilization rates of interpretation services and conference facilities at all duty stations;

24. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to consider improving and modernizing the conference facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi in order to accommodate adequately major meetings and conferences, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its resumed fifty-sixth session, through the Committee on Conferences;

III

Documentation- and publication-related matters

1. *Notes with deep concern* the low rate of compliance with the six-week rule for the issuance of documentation, and encourages the Secretary-General, in view of the impact of late submissions on the timely issuance of documents, to deal with this alarming situation;

2. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure that documentation is available in accordance with the six-week rule for the distribution of documents simultaneously in the six official languages of the General Assembly;

3. *Deeply regrets* the failure of author departments to abide by section III, paragraph 5, of its resolution 55/222, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to take corrective

measures to ensure the full implementation of this provision and to report to the General Assembly in the first part of its resumed fifty-sixth session;

4. *Notes* that the failure to abide by that provision also connotes failure to abide by the six-week rule for the availability of documents as well as General Assembly resolution 50/11 on multilingualism, in which the Assembly recalled the need to ensure the simultaneous distribution of documents in the six official languages of the United Nations;

5. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to direct all departments to include, where appropriate, the following elements in reports originating in the Secretariat:

(*a*) A summary of the report;

(*b*) Consolidated conclusions, recommendations and other proposed actions;

(*c*) Relevant background information;

6. *Reiterates* that all documents submitted to legislative organs by the Secretariat and expert bodies for consideration and action should have conclusions and recommendations in bold print;

7. *Requests* the Office of Internal Oversight Services to submit its reports in accordance with paragraph 12 of General Assembly resolution 53/208 B;

8. *Regrets* that, if a report is issued late, some departments of the Secretariat still do not indicate the reasons for the delay when the report is introduced;

9. *Reiterates its decision* that, if a report is submitted late to conference services, the reasons therefor should be included in a footnote to the document;

10. *Decides* to approve the report of the Secretary-General on measures taken by the Secretariat to strengthen responsibility and accountability in the submission of documentation,[44] with the exception of those described in paragraph 12 of the present section, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on measures taken to ensure full implementation of the report;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to develop an effective accountability and responsibility system within the Secretariat in order to ensure timely submission of documents for processing, and to report thereon, through the Committee on Conferences, to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to bring to the attention of the organs concerned, when they are taking action on draft resolutions and decisions, rules 78 and 120 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly;

13. *Notes with concern* the delay in the issuance of verbatim and summary records, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to take appropriate measures to ameliorate the situation;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to study the possibility of further measures in this regard, including enhanced cooperation between the production of press releases by the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat and the preparation of summary records by the Department of General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services, bearing in mind the different nature of press releases and summary records;

15. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the communication of resolutions adopted by the General Assembly to the States Members of the United Nations within fifteen days of the close of each session;

16. *Welcomes* the new format for the issuance of the *Official Records* of the resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session, in accordance with the request contained in resolution 54/248, section C, paragraph 3;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure fully the issuance of all documents and publications of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia in Arabic, which is most relevant to the requirements of the Member States of the region, as well as in the other working languages of the Commission to meet the requirements of readers outside the region, as appropriate, and to report thereon to the General Assembly by its fifty-seventh session;

IV

Translation- and interpretation-related matters

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General not to conduct further pilot projects on remote interpretation until technological developments so warrant;

2. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to provide a comprehensive comparative cost-benefit analysis on the use of remote interpretation at all United Nations duty stations, as recipients and as providers of that service, covering, inter alia, direct and indirect related costs and utilization rates, as well as issues pertaining to the working conditions of interpreters;

3. *Decides* to approve, for an initial period of one year, the training initiative for interpreters who, on the first competitive examination, scored higher than the benchmark of 55 per cent and who possess those language combinations that are insufficiently represented on the roster of successful candidates, subject to the submission to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session of information on the results of the

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[44] A/56/300.

training activities, the continuing need for the programme and related financial arrangements;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide updated information to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session, under the agenda item entitled "Human resources management," on current practices related to the special ceiling on the United Nations annual earnings for United Nations retirees employed on a short-term basis in language services, as established by the Assembly in its decision 51/408 of 4 November 1996, with a view to reviewing this issue;

5. *Decides* to conduct a comprehensive review of the current norms and standards of productivity in the language services and the impact of ongoing technological innovations on their work, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a detailed report on the subject, through the Committee on Conferences, to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

6. *Reiterates its concern* at the high rate of self-revision in the translation services, which exceeded the benchmark, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to accord high priority to the post of reviser and to reduce reliance on self-revision to the maximum extent, and to take these considerations into account when filling vacancies in the translation services;

7. *Notes with deep concern* that some official documents are not translated into all the official languages of the Organization;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Secretariat undertakes to translate all United Nations documents into all the other official languages of the Organization simultaneously, including documents for which circulation is requested under agenda items of the principal deliberative bodies of the United Nations, regardless of their length;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to fill expeditiously the remaining vacancies in the interpretation service at the United Nations Office at Nairobi and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its resumed fifty-sixth session;

10. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to accelerate his efforts to fill vacant posts in interpretation and translation at Headquarters and at all other United Nations duty stations;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to refrain from using the terms "different languages" or "multilingual" in official documents when referring to the six official languages of the United Nations;

12. *Expresses concern* about the quality of interpretation services provided to intergovernmental meetings, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure the highest standards of quality for interpretation services provided to these meetings;

13. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure that training opportunities in the six official languages are equally available to all language staff, including those at duty stations away from Headquarters;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that efforts continue to be made to improve the quality control of language services at all duty stations;

15. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure that translation, in principle, reflects the specificity of each language;

16. *Also reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General, in order to improve further the quality of translation of documents issued in the six official languages, to ensure continuous dialogue between translation staff and interpretation staff, among United Nations headquarters at New York, Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi, and between translation divisions and Member States with regard to the standardization of the terminology used;

17. *Further reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to hold informational meetings in order to brief Member States periodically on the terminology used;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to conduct consultations, with Member States concerned, on the improvement of translation services;

V

Information technology

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a progress report on the use of information technology in the Department of General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services, including voice recognition, remote translation, computer-assisted translation, the Electronic Documents Registration, Information and Tracking System, the new stock control system for documents and publications, digitization of meeting recording systems, electronic planning and servicing of meetings, and computerized terminology data banks, specifying in particular the impact of these technologies on the working methods and productivity of the personnel of the Department;

2. *Notes with concern* the content of paragraph 7 of the report of the Secretary-General,[45] which stresses that progress in the development of the United Nations web site on the Internet in the six official languages has been slower than expected, and that the realization of a truly equal multilingual web site will remain elusive.

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[45] A/AC.198/2001/8.

Annex

Guidelines on limiting meeting duration

1. Meetings normally should be held during regular meeting hours, namely, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., on working days;

2. The Secretariat should intensify coordination between its relevant units with a view to planning for the provision of conference services;

3. Intergovernmental bodies should undertake a review of their meeting patterns and, in coordination with the Department of General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services of the Secretariat, adjust their meeting requests for subsequent sessions accordingly;

4. Requests for the extension of sessions beyond the originally scheduled dates, resumed sessions and other intersessional departures would continue to be submitted to the Committee on Conferences and handled in accordance with General Assembly resolution 43/222 B and with past practice as agreed by the Committee.

RESOLUTION 56/243

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/728, para. 7)[46]

56/243. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on Contributions,[47]

1. *Recalls* its resolution 55/5 A of 26 October 2000;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to update the information contained in the annexes to his report on the application of Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations;[48]

3. *Recognizes* that multi-year payment plans, subject to careful formulation, could be helpful in allowing Member States to demonstrate their commitment under Article 19 of the Charter to pay their arrears, thereby facilitating consideration of applications for exemption by the Committee on Contributions, and requests the Secretary-General to propose guidelines for such multi-year payment plans through the Committee on Contributions;

4. *Recognizes also* that it would be helpful for the Secretariat to be equipped with input from Member States on a schedule of payments or other information about their intentions to clear their accumulated arrears, and encourages Member States in a position to do so to provide such information;

5. *Urges* all Member States to pay their assessed contributions in full, on time and without imposing conditions, in order to avoid the difficulties being experienced by the United Nations;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to propose or consider further measures to encourage Member States in arrears to reduce and eventually pay their arrears, and to report thereon to the General Assembly during the main part of its fifty-seventh session for subsequent consideration at its resumed fifty-seventh session.

RESOLUTION 56/244

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/729, para. 8)[49]

56/244. United Nations common system: report of the International Civil Service Commission

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the International Civil Service Commission for the year 2001[50] and the statement submitted by the Secretary-General on the administrative and financial implications of the decisions and recommendations contained in the report of the Commission,[51]

Reaffirming its commitment to a single, unified United Nations common system as the cornerstone for the regulation and coordination of the conditions of service of the United Nations common system,

Convinced that the common system constitutes the best instrument to secure staff of the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity for the international civil service, as stipulated under the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the statute of the Commission and the central role of the Commission in the regulation and coordination of the conditions of service of the United Nations common system,

Takes note of the report of the International Civil Service Commission for the year 2001;[50]

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[46] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[47] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 11* (A/56/11); ibid., *Supplement No. 11A* and corrigendum (A/56/11/Add.1 and Corr.1).

[48] A/55/789.

[49] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[50] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 30* (A/56/30).

[51] A/56/485.

I

Conditions of service applicable to both categories of staff

A. Standards of conduct for the international civil service

Recalling its resolutions 52/252 of 8 September 1998, 54/238 of 23 December 1999 and 55/223 of 23 December 2000,

Welcomes the standards of conduct as set out in annex II to the report of the Commission;[50]

B. Introduction of the euro

1. *Approves* the recommendation of the Commission that:

(*a*) Effective 1 January 2002, the euro should be used as the official currency for those emoluments which are currently set in the national currencies of the twelve euro-zone countries, and that the national currency amounts would be converted by applying the respective fixed conversion rates and then rounded up or down to the nearest euro;

(*b*) The converted values of the education grant for nine currency areas, and of the children's and secondary dependant's allowances for nine locations, will change over to the euro effective 1 January 2002, as reflected in annexes I and II to the present resolution;

2. *Invites* organizations to convert officially into euros, where applicable, their respective General Service salary scales and allowances effective 1 January 2002, on the basis of the approach referred to in paragraph 1 (a) above;

II

Conditions of service of staff in the Professional and higher categories

A. Evolution of the margin

Recalling section I.B of its resolution 52/216 of 22 December 1997 and the standing mandate from the General Assembly, in which the Commission is requested to continue its review of the relationship between the net remuneration of the United Nations staff in the Professional and higher categories in New York and that of the comparator civil service (the United States federal civil service) employees in comparable positions in Washington, D.C. (referred to as "the margin"),

Recalling also section IX, paragraph 3, of its resolution 46/191 A of 20 December 1991, in which it requested the Commission to include in its work programme a review of the differences between the United Nations and the United States net remuneration at individual grade levels,

1. *Notes* that the margin between the net remuneration of United Nations staff in grades P-1 to D-2 in New York and that of officials in comparable positions in the United States federal civil service for 2001 is 111.0, as reflected in annex III to the present resolution;

2. *Also notes* that the United Nations/United States net remuneration ratios range from 117.1 at the P-2 level to 104.4 at the D-2 level, and considers that this imbalance should be addressed in the context of the overall margin considerations established by the General Assembly;

B. Base/floor salary scale

Recalling section I.H of its resolution 44/198 of 21 December 1989, by which it established a floor net salary level for staff in the Professional and higher categories by reference to the corresponding base net salary levels of officials in comparable positions serving at the base city of the comparator civil service (the United States federal civil service),

1. *Notes* the increasing number of duty stations where the post adjustment classification is equal or close to zero, and requests the Commission to review the methodology to ensure that purchasing power equivalence is appropriately reflected;

2. *Approves*, with effect from 1 March 2002, as recommended by the Commission, the revised base scale of gross and net salaries for staff in the Professional and higher categories, as contained in annex IV to the present resolution;

III

Strengthening of the international civil service

Having considered the note by the Secretary-General on the review of the International Civil Service Commission[52] and the report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the international civil service,[53]

Requests the Secretary-General, in close consultation with the Chairman of the International Civil Service Commission, to submit a timetable for the implementation of the review of the strengthening of the international civil service to the General Assembly at the main part of its fifty-seventh session.

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[52] A/54/483.

[53] A/55/526.

Annex I

Education grant amounts for euro-zone currency areas effective 1 January 2002

(In euros)

Country	*Maximum admissible educational expenses and maximum grant for disabled children*	*Maximum education grant*	*Normal flat rate when boarding not provided*	*Additional flat rate when boarding (at designated duty stations)*
Austria	12 159	9 119	3 170	4 755
Belgium	12 898	9 673	2 929	4 394
Finland	9 082	6 812	2 229	3 343
France	9 330	6 997	2 500	3 751
Germany	15 736	11 802	3 592	5 389
Ireland	9 997	7 498	2 404	3 606
Italy	12 289	9 217	2 558	3 838
Netherlands	13 085	9 814	3 170	4 755
Spain	9 452	7 089	2 456	3 684

Annex II

Children's and secondary dependant's allowance amounts for euro-zone currency areas effective 1 January 2002

(In euros)

Country	*Children's allowance*	*Secondary dependant's allowance*
Austria	2 298	849
Belgium	1 947	623
France	1 730	574
French Guyana	1 730	574
Germany	2 321	832
Ireland	1 627	533
Luxembourg	1 947	623
Monaco	1 730	574
Netherlands	2 271	773

Annex III

Comparison of average net remuneration of United Nations officials in the Professional and higher categories in New York and United States officials in Washington, D.C., by equivalent grades (margin for calendar year 2001)

	Net remuneration (United States dollars)				
Grade	*United Nations*[a,b]	*United States*	*United Nations/ United States ratio (United States, Washington, D.C. = 100)*	*United Nations/ United States ratio adjusted for cost-of-living differential*	*Weights for calculation of overall ratio*[c]
D-2	130 560	108 975	119.8	104.4	3.7
D-1	121 881	101 797	119.7	104.3	9.9
P-5	112 001	89 924	124.6	108.5	26.8
P-4	97 243	75 896	128.1	111.6	32.0
P-3	81 742	61 551	132.8	115.7	21.8
P-2	67 416	50 170	134.4	117.1	5.6
P-1	50 821	38 355	132.5	115.4	0.2
Weighted average ratio before adjustment for New York/ Washington, D.C., cost-of-living differential				127.4	
New York/Washington, D.C., cost-of-living ratio				114.8	
Weighted average ratio, adjusted for cost-of-living difference				111.0	

[a] Average United Nations salary at dependency level by grade reflecting two months at multiplier 48.4 (on the basis of the salary scale effective through 28 February 2001), eight months at multiplier 41.2 and two months at multiplier 46.4 (on the basis of the salary scale in effect from 1 March 2001).

[b] For the calculation of the average United Nations salaries, Personnel Statistics of the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions as at 31 December 1999 were used.

[c] These weights correspond to United Nations common system staff in grades P-1 to D-2 inclusive, serving at headquarters and established offices as at 31 December 1999.

Annex IV

Salary scale for the Professional and higher categories, showing annual gross salaries and net equivalents after application of staff assessment[a] effective 1 March 2002

(United States dollars)

Level		*Steps*														
		I	*II*	*III*	*IV*	*V*	*VI*	*VII*	*VIII*	*IX*	*X*	*XI*	*XII*	*XIII*	*XIV*	*XV*
Under-Secretary-General																
USG	**Gross**	**174 137**														
	Net D	118 165														
	Net S	106 342														
Assistant Secretary-General																
ASG	**Gross**	**158 353**														
	Net D	108 379														
	Net S	98 141														
Director																
D-2	**Gross**	**129 834**	**132 689**	**135 540**	**138 392**	**141 245**	**144 097**									
	Net D	90 697	92 467	94 235	96 003	97 772	99 540									
	Net S	83 322	84 805	86 286	87 768	89 250	90 733									
Principal Officer																
D-1	**Gross**	**114 784**	**117 226**	**119 669**	**122 106**	**124 550**	**126 994**	**129 437**	**131 877**	**134 319**						
	Net D	81 366	82 880	84 395	85 906	87 421	88 936	90 451	91 964	93 478						
	Net S	75 209	76 539	77 868	79 195	80 526	81 845	83 115	84 384	85 652						
Senior Officer																
P-5	**Gross**	**101 084**	**103 294**	**105 505**	**107 715**	**109 924**	**112 132**	**114 344**	**116 553**	**118 761**	**120 974**	**123 185**	**125 392**	**127 602**		
	Net D	72 872	74 242	75 613	76 983	78 353	79 722	81 093	82 463	83 832	85 204	86 575	87 943	89 313		
	Net S	67 698	68 955	70 159	71 362	72 565	73 767	74 970	76 173	77 376	78 579	79 781	80 983	82 162		
First Officer																
P-4	**Gross**	**83 255**	**85 283**	**87 306**	**89 329**	**91 442**	**93 597**	**95 752**	**97 906**	**100 065**	**102 216**	**104 371**	**106 529**	**108 682**	**110 837**	**112 994**
	Net D	61 548	62 887	64 222	65 557	66 894	68 230	69 566	70 902	72 240	73 574	74 910	76 284	77 583	78 919	80 256
	Net S	57 316	58 546	59 770	60 994	62 220	63 443	64 669	65 894	67 118	68 342	69 540	70 717	71 888	73 062	74 235
Second Officer																
P-3	**Gross**	**68 306**	**70 208**	**72 112**	**74 011**	**75 915**	**77 815**	**79 715**	**81 620**	**83 523**	**85 423**	**87 326**	**89 226**	**91 202**	**93 226**	**95 250**
	Net D	51 682	52 937	54 194	55 447	56 704	57 958	59 212	60 469	61 725	62 979	64 235	65 489	66 745	68 000	69 255
	Net S	48 242	49 396	50 553	51 706	52 862	54 015	55 169	56 324	57 477	58 632	59 782	60 933	62 083	63 233	64 384
Associate Officer																
P-2	**Gross**	**55 346**	**56 907**	**58 465**	**60 027**	**61 729**	**63 429**	**65 130**	**66 829**	**68 532**	**70 233**	**71 932**	**73 636**			
	Net D	42 849	43 973	45 095	46 218	47 341	48 463	49 586	50 707	51 831	52 954	54 075	55 200			
	Net S	40 191	41 210	42 226	43 244	44 260	45 279	46 313	47 344	48 379	49 412	50 444	51 479			
Assistant Officer																
P-1	**Gross**	**42 944**	**44 444**	**45 942**	**47 442**	**48 939**	**50 438**	**51 938**	**53 436**	**54 932**	**56 432**					
	Net D	33 920	35 000	36 078	37 158	38 236	39 315	40 395	41 474	42 551	43 631					
	Net S	31 997	32 992	33 986	34 980	35 974	36 967	37 962	38 944	39 921	40 899					

D = Rate applicable to staff members with a dependent spouse or child.

S = Rate applicable to staff members with no dependent spouse or child.

[a] This scale will be implemented in conjunction with a consolidation of 3.87 per cent of post adjustment. There will be consequential adjustments in post adjustment indices and multipliers at all duty stations effective 1 March 2002. Thereafter, changes in post adjustment classifications will be implemented on the basis of the movement of the consolidated post adjustment indices.

RESOLUTION 56/245

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/655, para. 6)[54]

56/245. Joint Inspection Unit

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its previous resolutions on the Joint Inspection Unit, in particular resolutions 50/233 of 7 June 1996, 54/16 of 29 October 1999 and 55/230 of 23 December 2000,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit for 2000;[55]

2. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the programme of work of the Unit for 2001 and the preliminary listing of potential reports for 2002 and beyond,[56] as well as the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Unit on experience with the follow-up system on Joint Inspection Unit reports and recommendations;[57]

3. *Also takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Unit;[58]

4. *Takes note in particular* that, as noted in the preliminary listing of potential reports for 2002 and beyond and reaffirmed by the Chairman of the Unit, the preliminary listing is of a tentative nature and does not necessarily imply that the Unit is committed to taking up these subjects;

5. *Invites* the Unit to improve the presentation of the listing of potential reports for the following year and beyond by providing information on the source, including legislative basis, objectives, problems to be addressed, duration and expected date of completion, and to present such information before the final quarter of each year;

6. *Requests* the executive heads of participating organizations to observe fully the time frame for submitting their comments, as called for in article 11, paragraphs 4 (*d*) and (*e*), of the statute of the Unit;

7. *Requests* the Unit to consider including in its reports, where possible, the comments of the participating organizations on its findings and recommendations and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

8. *Stresses* the need for the Unit to place emphasis in its work on well-defined and timely items of high priority, identifying concrete managerial, administrative and programming questions aimed at providing the General Assembly and other legislative organs of participating organizations with practical and action-oriented recommendations;

9. *Stresses also* that the compliance with the provisions of paragraph 4 of the system of follow-up to the reports of the Unit, endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 54/16 and contained in the annual report of the Unit for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997,[59] is a responsibility of the Unit as a whole, and, in this regard, requests the Unit to exercise fully its collective wisdom in accordance with article 11, paragraph 2, of the statute;

10. *Requests* the Chairman of the Unit, in accordance with article 18 of the statute, to ensure compliance by the Unit with the provisions of its statute as well as the internal standards, guidelines and procedures as approved by the Unit;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the other participating organizations to ensure that the Unit is provided with the information requested by it in due time, in accordance with article 6, paragraph 2, of the statute;

12. *Welcomes* the initial steps taken by the Unit with other external and internal oversight bodies of the United Nations system to develop interaction and intensify relations with a view to achieving better coordination among them with respect, in particular, to the oversight coverage and sharing of best practices, thus enhancing the impact of oversight activities as a whole and endeavouring to avoid duplication, and requests the Unit to report thereon, in the context of its report for 2001, to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

13. *Requests* the executive heads of those participating organizations that have not yet done so to take the necessary steps to facilitate the consideration of and action on the system of follow-up to the reports of the Unit,[59] and invites the legislative organs concerned to consider and act upon it;

14. *Requests* the Unit to submit, as part of its annual report, additional comments and recommendations on its experience with the system of follow-up to the reports of the Unit, focusing in particular on legislative actions and implementation of the approved recommendations, to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session, including measures the Unit has taken to achieve a punctual and systematic follow-up of its recommendations as approved by the legislative organs of participating organizations;

15. *Decides* to review the current state of coordination and cooperation among the United Nations oversight bodies

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[54] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[55] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 34* and corrigendum (A/56/34 and Corr.1).

[56] A/56/84.

[57] A/56/356.

[58] A/56/135.

[59] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 34* (A/52/34), annex I.

with a view to ensuring greater synergy and mutual complementarity in their joint efforts to improve the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations;

16. *Requests* that the Unit place more emphasis on the evaluation aspects of its work, in accordance with recommendation 63 contained in the report of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and Financial Functioning of the United Nations,[60] as endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986;

17. *Underlines* the fact that the evaluation function is envisaged in the statute of the Unit, and stresses the need for the Unit to pay special attention to the preparation of reports that are more evaluation-oriented;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to the executive heads of the other participating organizations for their attention.

RESOLUTION 56/246

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/739, para. 6)[61]

56/246. Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/218 B of 29 July 1994 and 54/244 of 23 December 1999,

Recalling also its decision 55/488 of 7 September 2001,

Having considered the annual reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the Secretariat for the periods from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000[62] and from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001,[63]

1. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Office of Internal Oversight Services;

2. *Takes note* of the annual reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services for the periods from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000[62] and from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001;[63]

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Office of Internal Oversight Services includes in its annual reports information regarding the implementation rate of the recommendations of the previous three reporting periods;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Office of Internal Oversight Services includes, in its next annual report, information regarding the impact of its reorganization on its work;

5. *Welcomes* the initiative to include in the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services[63] qualitative assessments of the implementation of recommendations defined as critical, and invites the Secretary-General to entrust the Office with refining the criteria referred to in paragraph 8 of that report, taking into account the relevant provisions of resolutions 48/218 B and 54/244, and to report thereon in the context of the next annual report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Office of Internal Oversight Services, when providing information on the implementation rate of critical recommendations in its future annual reports, deals separately with those recommendations which have been implemented, those which are in the process of being implemented and those for which no implementation process is under way, and the reasons for their non-implementation;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to present an update on the implementation of the recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on mission liquidation activities at the United Nations, in particular with regard to write-offs, to the General Assembly at its resumed fifty-sixth session;

8. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, with regard to the new mission subsistence allowance referred to in paragraphs 88 and 89 of its report[63] are fully and expeditiously implemented, and to report on the matter in the context of the budget performance reports of the relevant peacekeeping operations;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Office of Internal Oversight Services submits an update on the status of the oversight activities referred to in paragraphs 71 to 81 and in paragraphs 52 to 60, respectively, of its two most recent annual reports,[64] for further consideration by the General Assembly at its resumed fifty-sixth session;

10. *Recalls* section III, paragraph 7, of its resolution 55/222 of 23 December 2000, by which it reiterated that all documents submitted to legislative organs by the Secretariat and expert bodies for consideration and action should have conclusions and recommendations in bold print.

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[60] Ibid., *Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 49* (A/41/49).

[61] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[62] A/55/436.

[63] A/56/381.

[64] A/55/436 and A/56/381.

RESOLUTION 56/247

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/730, para. 6)[65]

56/247. Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991

The General Assembly,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991[66] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[67]

Recalling its resolution 47/235 of 14 September 1993 on the financing of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which were resolutions 55/225 A of 23 December 2000 and 55/225 B of 12 April 2001,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the budget performance of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2000[68] and the comments of the Advisory Committee thereon in its report,[69]

Taking note also of Security Council resolution 1329 (2000) of 30 November 2000 concerning the establishment of a pool of ad litem judges in the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia,

1. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[67] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

2. *Deeply regrets* the delay in the submission of the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia;

3. *Reaffirms* paragraph 3 of its resolution 54/239 A of 23 December 1999, and emphasizes that future reports on the financing of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia should be submitted by 1 October of the year in which they are to be considered;

4. *Notes* that gratis personnel were still used in the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia in 2000, and emphasizes that the provisions of General Assembly resolution 51/243 of 15 September 1997 on this issue must be strictly adhered to;

5. *Notes also* that a large total number of interns were used, and stresses that the acceptance of such interns should be consistent with the established guidelines, rules and regulations, in particular as regards the exceptional nature of a six-month assignment;

6. *Notes with great concern* the high vacancy rate in the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia;

7. *Notes with concern* the absence of a firm exit strategy for the completion of the work of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia;

8. *Welcomes* all efforts that contribute to the determination of a firm exit strategy for the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, and, in this context, notes the comment of the Advisory Committee on empowering special national courts to undertake trials, as stated in paragraph 5 of the report of the Advisory Committee;[69]

9. *Notes* the issues raised by the Advisory Committee in paragraphs 32, 80 and 82 of its report,[69] and decides to revert to these issues at the resumed fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly;

10. *Decides* that the staffing table for the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia shall remain at levels approved for 2001 until the General Assembly at its resumed fifty-sixth session in March 2002 determines appropriate levels for the biennium 2002–2003;

11. *Authorizes* the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia to utilize the general temporary assistance resources necessary to provide the equivalent of up to the ninety new posts recommended by the Advisory Committee for the purposes and functions intended, it being understood that this utilization of general temporary assistance is to ensure the ability of the Court to assume an accelerated schedule of trials, as foreseen in the budget proposal, and would be without prejudice to the decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its resumed fifth-sixth session as regards an authorized staffing table for the biennium 2002–2003;

12. *Welcomes* recent improvements in the functioning of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, and encourages continued efforts to address areas where improvement is needed;

13. *Decides* to appropriate, on a provisional basis, subject to further review at its resumed fifty-sixth session, to the Special Account for the International Tribunal for the Former

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[65] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[66] A/56/495 and Corr.1 and Add.1; and A/C.5/56/30.

[67] A/56/665 and A/56/717.

[68] A/56/501.

[69] A/56/665.

Yugoslavia, a total amount of 242,791,600 United States dollars gross (218,216,300 dollars net) for the biennium 2002–2003;

14. *Requests* the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia to submit, on an annual basis, a financial and programme performance report to the General Assembly;

15. *Decides* that the financing of the appropriation for the biennium 2002–2003 under the Special Account shall take into account the unused unencumbered balance of 3,183,700 dollars gross (4,154,500 dollars net) for 2000, interest and miscellaneous income of 3,559,600 dollars recorded for the biennium 2000–2001, the estimated additional requirements[70] of 4,854,700 dollars gross (3,571,900 dollars net) for 2001 and the estimated income of 154,400 dollars for the biennium 2002–2003, which shall be set off against the aggregate amount of the appropriation, as detailed in the annex to the present resolution;

16. *Decides also* to apportion for the year 2002 the amount of 60,187,150 dollars gross (53,518,525 dollars net) among Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for the biennium 2002–2003 as set out in its resolution 55/5 B of 23 December 2000;

17. *Decides further* to apportion for the year 2002 the amount of 60,187,150 dollars gross (53,518,525 dollars net) among Member States in accordance with the rates of assessment applicable to peacekeeping operations for 2002;

18. *Decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraphs 16 and 17 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund in the amount of 13,337,250 dollars, being half of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia for the biennium 2002–2003.

Annex

Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991

	Gross	*Net*
	(United States dollars)	
Estimated appropriation for the biennium 2002–2003 (after recosting)	256 241 300	229 787 800
Revised estimates (after recosting)[a]	156 300	156 300
Reductions made by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (after recosting)	(7 227 700)	(6 554 700)
Reductions proposed by the Fifth Committee	(6 378 300)	(5 173 100)
Revised estimated appropriation for the biennium 2002–2003 (after recosting)	242 791 600	218 216 300
Prior credits and debits	(1 888 600)	(4 142 200)
Estimated income for the biennium 2002–2003	(154 400)	-
Balance to be assessed for the biennium 2002–2003	240 748 600	214 074 100
Assessment for 2002,[b]	120 374 300	107 037 050
Of which:		
Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for 2002	60 187 150	53 518 525
Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to peacekeeping operations of the United Nations for 2002	60 187 150	53 518 525

[a] To provide for internal oversight functions for the first six months of 2002 as detailed in document A/C.5/56/30.

[b] For the year 2003 equivalent amounts will be assessed by the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session.

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[70] Provision for expenditures charged against the commitment authority as per resolution 55/225 B.

RESOLUTION 56/248

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/731, para. 6)[71]

56/248. Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994

The General Assembly,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994[72] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[73]

Recalling its resolution 49/251 of 20 July 1995 on the financing of the International Tribunal for Rwanda and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 55/226 of 23 December 2000,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the budget performance of the International Tribunal for Rwanda for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2000[74] and the comments of the Advisory Committee thereon in its report,[75]

Taking note also of Security Council resolution 1329 (2000) of 30 November 2000 concerning the election of two judges of the International Tribunal for Rwanda and the assignment of two of the judges elected or appointed in accordance with article 12 of the statute of the International Tribunal for Rwanda to be members of the Appeals Chamber of the International Tribunal for Rwanda and the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991,

1. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[73] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

2. *Deeply regrets* the delay in the submission of the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the International Tribunal for Rwanda;

3. *Reaffirms* paragraph 3 of its resolution 54/240 A of 23 December 1999, and emphasizes that future reports on the financing of the International Tribunal for Rwanda should be submitted by 1 October of the year in which they are to be considered;

4. *Notes* that a large total number of interns were used, and stresses that the acceptance of such interns should be consistent with the established guidelines, rules and regulations, in particular as regards the exceptional nature of a six-month assignment;

5. *Notes with great concern* that the high vacancy rate, particularly at the higher level of the administrative hierarchy, affects the effectiveness of the activities of the International Tribunal for Rwanda;

6. *Notes* the issues raised by the Advisory Committee in paragraphs 12, 16, 18, 29, 30, 44, and 49 of its report,[75] and decides to revert to these issues at the resumed fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly;

7. *Decides* that the staffing table for the International Tribunal for Rwanda shall remain at levels approved for 2001 until the General Assembly at its resumed fifty-sixth session in March 2002 determines appropriate levels for the biennium 2002–2003;

8. *Authorizes* the International Tribunal for Rwanda to utilize the general temporary assistance resources necessary to provide the equivalent of up to seventy-seven new posts recommended by the Advisory Committee for the purposes and functions intended, it being understood that this utilization of general temporary assistance is to ensure the ability of the Tribunal to assume an accelerated schedule of trials, as foreseen in the budget proposal, and would be without prejudice to the decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its resumed fifty-sixth session as regards an authorized staffing table for the biennium 2002–2003;

9. *Decides* to appropriate, on a provisional basis, subject to further review at its resumed fifty-sixth session, to the Special Account for the International Tribunal for Rwanda, a total amount of 192,312,400 United States dollars gross (173,611,600 dollars net) for the biennium 2002–2003;

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[71] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[72] A/56/497 and Add.1; and A/C.5/56/30.

[73] A/56/666 and A/56/717.

[74] A/56/500.

[75] A/56/666.

10. *Decides also* that the financing of the appropriation for the biennium 2002–2003 under the Special Account shall take into account the actual unencumbered balance of 3,010,100 dollars gross (2,352,900 dollars net) as at the end of 2000 and the estimated unencumbered balance of 4,237,100 dollars gross (3,851,900 dollars net), which was taken into account in resolution 55/226, as well as the amount of 2,160,000 dollars gross (2,160,000 dollars net), being the interest and other miscellaneous income recorded for the biennium 2000–2001, which shall be set off against the aggregate amount of the appropriation, as detailed in the annex to the present resolution;

11. *Requests* the International Tribunal for Rwanda to submit, on an annual basis, a financial and programme performance report to the General Assembly;

12. *Notes* the proposed maintenance costs for prisoners,[76] and requests the Secretary-General to include this item in the context of the requested report on the long-term financial implications of the International Tribunal for Rwanda at the resumed fifty-sixth session;

13. *Decides* to apportion for the year 2002 the amount of 47,844,850 dollars gross (43,237,650 dollars net) among Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for the biennium 2002–2003 as set out in its resolution 55/5 B of 23 December 2000;

14. *Decides also* to apportion for the year 2002 the amount of 47,844,850 dollars gross (43,237,650 dollars net) among Member States in accordance with the rates of assessment applicable to peacekeeping operations for 2002;

15. *Decides further* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraphs 13 and 14 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund in the amount of 9,214,400 dollars, being half of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the International Tribunal for Rwanda for the biennium 2002–2003.

Annex

Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994

	Gross	*Net*
	(United States dollars)	
Estimated appropriation for the biennium 2002–2003 (after recosting)	198 523 800	179 015 300
Additional appropriations (after recosting)[a]	189 200	189 200
Reduction made by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (after recosting)	(2 079 000)	(1 863 900)
Reductions proposed by the Fifth Committee	(4 321 600)	(3 729 000)
Revised estimated appropriation for the biennium 2002–2003 (after recosting)	192 312 400	173 611 600
Add:		
Estimated unencumbered balance for 2000 that was taken into account and reduced from the assessment for 2001 (see resolution 55/226)	4 237 100	3 851 900
Less:		
Actual unencumbered balance for the year 2000	(3 010 100)	(2 352 900)
Interest and other miscellaneous income for the biennium 2000–2001 as at 30 June 2001	(2 160 000)	(2 160 000)
Balance to be assessed for the biennium 2002–2003	191 379 400	172 950 600
Assessment for 2002,[b]	95 689 700	86 475 300
Of which:		
Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for 2002	47 844 850	43 237 650
Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to peacekeeping operations for 2002	47 844 850	43 237 650

[a] Includes resources for internal oversight functions as detailed in documents A/C.5/56/30 and A/56/717.

[b] For the year 2003 equivalent amounts will be assessed by the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session.

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[76] A/56/497, para. 13.

RESOLUTION 56/249

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/715, para. 6)[77]

56/249. Financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor[78] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[79]

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 1272 (1999) of 25 October 1999 regarding the establishment of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor and Council resolution 1338 (2001) of 31 January 2001, by which the Council extended the mandate of the Transitional Administration,

Recalling its resolution 54/246 A of 23 December 1999 on the financing of the Transitional Administration and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 55/228 B of 14 June 2001,

Reaffirming the general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations, as stated in General Assembly resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235 of 23 December 2000,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the trust fund for the multinational force,

Also noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Trust Fund for the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor, and inviting further such contributions to the Trust Fund,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Transitional Administration with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor as at 15 November 2001, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 239.9 million United States dollars, representing some 20 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Transitional Administration to the period ending 31 December 2001, notes that some 19 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full and on time, and urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Transitional Administration in full and on time;

3. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

4. *Expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

5. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

6. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

7. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Transitional Administration;

8. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[79] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Transitional Administration is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Transitional Administration against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Transitional Administration;

11. *Decides* to appropriate the amount of 458,000,128 dollars gross (445,193,514 dollars net) for the operation of the Transitional Administration for the period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002, inclusive of the amount of 3,000,128 dollars gross (2,773,914 dollars net) for the support account for peacekeeping operations, in addition to the amount of 17,027,947 dollars gross (14,943,699 dollars net) already appropriated for the support account and the amount of 1,778,786 dollars gross (1,597,340 dollars net) already appropriated for the United Nations Logistics Base by the

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[77] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[78] A/56/624.

[79] A/56/685.

General Assembly in its resolution 55/228 B, and inclusive of the amount of 282 million dollars gross (273,025,800 dollars net) authorized by the Assembly in resolution 55/228 B;

12. *Decides also*, taking into account the amount of 282 million dollars gross (273,025,800 dollars net) already apportioned for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2001 and the amount of 18,806,733 dollars gross (16,541,039 dollars net) already apportioned for the period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 55/228 B, to apportion among Member States the amount of 23,000,128 dollars gross (22,220,931 dollars net) for the period from 1 to 31 January 2002, in accordance with the levels set out in General Assembly resolution 55/235, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolution 55/236 of 23 December 2000, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 2002, as set out in its resolution 55/5 B of 23 December 2000;

13. *Decides further* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 12 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 779,197 dollars approved for the Transitional Administration for the period from 1 to 31 January 2002;

14. *Decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of 100 million dollars gross (97,235,083 dollars net) for the period from 1 February to 30 June 2002, at a monthly rate of 20 million dollars gross (19,447,016 dollars net), in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 2002, as set out in General Assembly resolution 55/5 B, subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Transitional Administration beyond 31 January 2002;

15. *Decides also* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 14 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 2,764,917 dollars approved for the Transitional Administration for the period from 1 February to 30 June 2002;

16. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

17. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Transitional Administration;

18. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Transitional Administration in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

19. *Decides* to keep under review during its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor".

RESOLUTION 56/250

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/714 and Corr.1, para. 6)[80]

56/250. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea[81] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[82]

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 1312 (2000) of 31 July 2000, by which the Council established the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Mission, the latest of which was resolution 1369 (2001) of 14 September 2001,

Recalling its resolution 55/237 of 23 December 2000 on the financing of the Mission and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 55/252 B of 14 June 2001,

Reaffirming the general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations, as stated in General Assembly resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235 of 23 December 2000,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Mission,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea as at 15 November 2001, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 100.3 million United States dollars, representing, regrettably, 36 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes that some 12 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States

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[80] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[81] A/56/610.

[82] A/56/661.

concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States that have paid their assessed contributions in full and on time and urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Mission in full and on time;

3. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors, that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

4. *Also expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

5. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

6. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

7. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Mission;

8. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[82] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Mission against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Mission;

11. *Decides* to appropriate the amount of 200,279,308 dollars gross (196,227,505 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Mission for the twelve-month period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002, inclusive of the amount of 1,879,308 dollars gross (1,737,605 dollars net) for the support account for peacekeeping operations, in addition to the amount of 5,444,104 dollars gross (4,777,737 dollars net) already appropriated for the support account, and the amount of 568,706 dollars gross (510,695 dollars net) already appropriated for the United Nations Logistics Base by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/252 B, and inclusive of the amount of 90 million dollars gross (88,933,450 dollars net) authorized by the Assembly in resolution 55/252 B;

12. *Decides also*, taking into account the amount of 90 million dollars gross (88,933,450 dollars net) already apportioned for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2001 and the amount of 6,012,810 dollars gross (5,288,432 dollars net) already apportioned for the period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002 in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 55/252 B, to apportion among Member States the amount of 52,412,641 dollars gross (50,567,834 dollars net) for the period from 1 July 2001 to 15 March 2002 in accordance with the levels set out in General Assembly resolution 55/235 , as adjusted by its resolution 55/236 of 23 December 2000, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 2001 and 2002 as set out in its resolution 55/5 B of 23 December 2000, the scale of assessments for the year 2001 to be applied against a portion thereof, that is, 9.2 million dollars gross (8,311,500 dollars net) for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2001, and the scale of assessment for the year 2002 to be applied against the balance, that is, 43,212,641 dollars gross (42,256,334 dollars net) for the period from 1 January to 15 March 2002;

13. *Decides further* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 12 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 1,844,807 dollars approved for the Mission for the period from 1 July 2001 to 15 March 2002, 888,500 dollars being the amount pertaining to the period from 1 July to 31 December 2001, and the balance, that is, 956,307 dollars, pertaining to the period from 1 January to 15 March 2002;

14. *Decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of 57,866,667 dollars gross (56,726,221 dollars net) for the period from 16 March to 30 June 2002, at a monthly rate of 16,533,333 dollars gross (16,207,492 dollars net) in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 2002 as set out in General Assembly resolution 55/5 B, subject to any decision by the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Mission beyond 15 March 2002;

15. *Decides also* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 14 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 1,140,446 dollars approved for the Mission for the period from 16 March to 30 June 2002;

16. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

17. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Mission;

18. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

19. *Decides* to keep under review during its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea".

RESOLUTION 56/251

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/712, para. 6)[83]

56/251. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone[84] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[85]

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 1270 (1999) of 22 October 1999, by which the Council established the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council revised and extended the mandate of the Mission, the latest of which was resolution 1370 (2001) of 18 September 2001,

Recalling its resolution 53/29 of 20 November 1998 on the financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone and subsequent resolutions on the financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone, the latest of which was resolution 55/251 B of 14 June 2001,

Reaffirming the general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations, as stated in General Assembly resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235 of 23 December 2000,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Mission,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone and the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone as at 15 November 2001, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 317.1 million United States dollars, representing, regrettably, some 30 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes that some 11 per cent of Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full and on time, and urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure the payment of their assessed contributions to the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone in full and on time;

3. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

4. *Also expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

5. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

6. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

7. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Mission;

8. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[85] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Mission against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Mission;

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[83] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[84] A/56/487.

[85] A/56/621.

11. *Decides* to appropriate the amount of 699,230,584 dollars gross (693,126,185 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Mission for the twelve-month period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002, inclusive of the amount of 7,230,584 dollars gross (6,685,385 dollars net) for the support account for peacekeeping operations, in addition to the amount of 16,634,763 dollars gross (14,598,640 dollars net) already appropriated for the support account, and the amount of 1,737,712 dollars gross (1,560,456 dollars net) already appropriated for the United Nations Logistics Base by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/251 B, inclusive also of the amount of 275 million dollars gross (273,375,000 dollars net) authorized by the Assembly in resolution 55/251 B;

12. *Decides also*, taking into account the amount of 275 million dollars gross (273,375,000 dollars net) already apportioned for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2001 and the amount of 18,372,475 dollars gross (16,159,096 dollars net) already apportioned for the period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 55/251 B, to apportion among Member States the amount of 251,230,584 dollars gross (248,140,985 dollars net) for the period from 1 July 2001 to 31 March 2002, in accordance with the levels set out in General Assembly resolution 55/235, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolution 55/236 of 23 December 2000, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 2001 and 2002 as set out in its resolution 55/5 B of 23 December 2000, the scale of assessments for the year 2001 to be applied against a portion thereof, that is, 71 million dollars gross (69,845,400 dollars net) for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2001, and the scale of assessments for the year 2002 to be applied against the balance, that is, 180,230,584 dollars gross (178,295,585 dollars net) for the period from 1 January to 31 March 2002;

13. *Decides further* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 12 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 3,089,599 dollars approved for the Mission for the period from 1 July 2001 to 31 March 2002, 1,154,600 dollars being the amount pertaining to the period from 1 July to 31 December 2001, and the balance, that is, 1,934,999 dollars pertaining to the period from 1 January to 31 March 2002;

14. *Decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of 132 million dollars gross (130,938,600 dollars net) for the period from 1 April to 30 June 2002, at a monthly rate of 44 million dollars gross (43,646,200 dollars net) in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 2002 as set out in General Assembly resolution 55/5 B, subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Mission beyond 31 March 2002;

15. *Decides also* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 14 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 1,061,400 dollars approved for the Mission for the period from 1 April to 30 June 2002;

16. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

17. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Mission;

18. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

19. *Decides* to keep under review during its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone".

RESOLUTION 56/252

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/713, para. 6)[86]

56/252. Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo[87] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[88]

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 1258 (1999) of 6 August 1999, by which the Council established the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council revised and extended the mandate of the Mission, the latest of which was resolution 1376 (2001) of 9 November 2001,

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[86] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[87] A/56/660.

[88] A/56/688.

Recalling its resolution 54/260 A of 7 April 2000 as well as subsequent resolutions on the financing of the Mission, the latest of which was resolution 55/275 of 14 June 2001,

Reaffirming the general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations, as stated in General Assembly resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235 of 23 December 2000,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Mission,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Reiterates* paragraph 1 of its resolution 55/275;

2. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo as at 15 November 2001, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 152.6 million United States dollars, representing, regrettably, some 40 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes that some 22 per cent of Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States that have paid their assessed contributions in full and on time, and urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Mission in full;

4. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

5. *Also expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

6. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

7. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

8. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Mission;

9. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[88] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Mission against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Mission;

12. *Decides* to appropriate the additional amount of 196,593,590 dollars gross (193,819,705 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Mission for the nine-month period from 1 July 2001 to 31 March 2002, inclusive of the amount of 3,351,190 dollars gross (3,098,505 dollars net) for the support account for peacekeeping operations, in addition to the amount of 8,260,509 dollars gross (7,249,409 dollars net) already appropriated for the support account, the amount of 862,915 dollars gross (774,893 dollars net) already appropriated for the United Nations Logistics Base and the amount of 200 million dollars gross (194,823,300 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Mission for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2001 appropriated and assessed by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/275;

13. *Decides also*, taking into account the amount of 200 million dollars gross (194,823,300 dollars net) already apportioned for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2001 in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 55/275, to apportion among Member States the additional amount of 196,593,590 dollars gross (193,819,705 dollars net) for the period from 1 January to 31 March 2002 in accordance with the levels set out in General Assembly resolution 55/235 as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolution 55/236 of 23 December 2000, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 2001 and 2002 as set out in its resolution 55/5 B of 23 December 2000;

14. *Decides further* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 13 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 2,773,885 dollars approved for the Mission for the period from 1 January to 31 March 2002;

15. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

16. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Mission;

17. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

18. *Decides* to keep under review during its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo".

RESOLUTION 56/253

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/736, para. 35)[89]

56/253. Questions relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003

The General Assembly,

I

Reaffirming its resolutions 41/213 of 19 December 1986, 42/211 of 21 December 1987 and section VI of its resolution 45/248 B of 21 December 1990,

Recalling its resolution 55/233 of 23 December 2000,

Recalling also its resolutions 54/249 of 23 December 1999 and 55/234 of 23 December 2000,

Recalling the relevant paragraphs of resolutions 52/12 A and 52/12 B of 12 November and 19 December 1997, respectively, as well as resolutions 52/235 of 26 June 1998, 53/220 A of 7 April 1999, 53/220 B of 8 June 1999 and 54/15 of 29 October 1999, relating to the Development Account,

Recalling also paragraph 2 (*a*) of its resolution 1798 (XVII) of 11 December 1962,

Reaffirming the respective mandates of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the Committee for Programme and Coordination in the consideration of the proposed programme budget,

Reaffirming also the requirement of all Member States to fulfil their financial obligations as set out in the Charter of the United Nations on time, in full and without conditions,

Having considered the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003,[90] the relevant reports of the Advisory Committee[91] and the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the work of its forty-first session,[92]

Recognizing the detrimental effect of the withholding of assessed contributions on the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations,

Recognizing also that late payments of assessed contributions adversely affect the financial situation of the Organization,

Stressing that the established procedures for the formulation, implementation and approval of the programme budget must be maintained and strictly followed,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters;

2. *Reaffirms also* rule 153 of its rules of procedure;

3. *Reaffirms further* the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation[93] and the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations;

4. *Recalls* section III, paragraph 13, of its resolution 55/222 of 23 December 2000, and requests the Secretary-General to submit, in a consolidated form, the long overdue and delayed revisions to the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations approved by the General Assembly;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take steps to ensure proper compliance with all regulations and rules of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation, as well as the relevant resolutions that establish the budgetary procedures, as part of the preparation of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004–2005, reporting thereon to the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its forty-second session;

6. *Decides* that no changes to the budget methodology, to established budgetary procedures and practices or to the financial regulations may be implemented without prior review and approval by the General Assembly, in accordance with established budgetary procedures;

7. *Reaffirms* the role of the General Assembly in carrying out a thorough analysis and approval of posts and financial resources, as well as of human resources policies, with a view to ensuring the full implementation of all mandated

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[89] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

[90] The proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003 is contained in documents A/56/6 and Corr.1 and Add.1 (Introduction, sections 1–33 and Income sections 1–3). For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 6.*

[91] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 7* (A/56/7); and A/56/7/Add.1–7 (for the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session Supplement No. 7A).*

[92] Ibid., *Supplement No. 16* (A/56/16).

[93] ST/SGB/2000/8.

programmes and activities and the implementation of policies in this regard;

8. *Welcomes* the timely submission of the proposed programme budget and the continued efforts made by the Secretary-General to improve the format of the proposed programme budget;

9. *Notes with satisfaction* the clarity of the presentation of the proposed programme budget, including through the provision of organization charts, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that, in the presentation of such charts in the future, complete information on proposals for additional posts, conversions and reclassifications is reflected;

10. *Decides* that the staffing table for each year of the biennium 2002–2003 shall be as contained in annex II to the present resolution;

11. *Notes with concern* the late submission of section 11B, International Trade Centre (UNCTAD/WTO), of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003;

12. *Commends* the efforts and initiatives of the Secretary-General aimed at reforming the United Nations;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that, in the implementation of approved reform proposals, there is no adverse impact on the fulfilment of legislative mandates;

14. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to review the format currently used for the presentation of estimates, gross and net, of staff assessment, with a view to enhancing comparability with other organizations of the United Nations system, and to report on options in this regard to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

15. *Further requests* the Secretary-General, in preparing the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004–2005, to ensure full compliance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 55/231 of 23 December 2000 and with the relevant approved recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination in paragraphs 35 to 40 of its report,[92] as well as those of the Advisory Committee in paragraphs 10 to 18 of its report,[94] bearing in mind the intergovernmental, multilateral and international character of the United Nations;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make proposals for the incorporation in the proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002–2005,[95] of a medium-term plan chapter to cover the activities of section 1 of the budget to be considered by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its forty-second session;

17. *Reiterates* that indicators of achievement should be used, where appropriate, to measure the performance of the Secretariat and not of Member States;

18. *Emphasizes* that the resources proposed by the Secretary-General should be commensurate with all mandated programmes and activities in order to ensure their full, efficient and effective implementation;

19. *Renews its appeal* to Member States to demonstrate their commitment to the United Nations by, inter alia, meeting their financial obligations on time, in full and without conditions, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations;

II

20. *Reaffirms* that the medium-term plan, as approved by the General Assembly, shall continue to constitute the principal policy directive of the United Nations;

21. *Reiterates* that the priorities for the biennium 2002–2003 are the following:

(*a*) Maintenance of international peace and security;

(*b*) Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development, in accordance with relevant General Assembly resolutions and recent United Nations conferences;

(*c*) Development of Africa;

(*d*) Promotion of human rights;

(*e*) Effective coordination of humanitarian assistance efforts;

(*f*) Promotion of justice and international law;

(*g*) Disarmament;

(*h*) Drug control, crime prevention and combating international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations;

22. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the programme narrative of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003 contained in the report of the Committee on the work of its forty-first session,[92] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

23. *Emphasizes* that programmes and activities mandated by the General Assembly must be respected and implemented fully in the most effective and efficient manner;

24. *Reaffirms* that changes in mandated programmes and activities are the prerogative of the General Assembly;

25. *Notes with concern* that some sections of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003 are not consistent with the medium-term plan for the period 2002–2005, and requests the Secretary-General to prepare the

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[94] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 7* (A/56/7).

[95] Ibid., *Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/55/6/Rev.1).

next biennial proposed programme budget in full conformity with the medium-term plan for the period 2002–2005, as adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/234, in particular with regard to the expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement and, taking into account mandates specific to the biennium;

26. *Reiterates* that the allocation of resources should reflect fully the priorities established in the medium-term plan, and notes the importance of adopting efficient and effective management practices within the United Nations system, in particular by promoting cooperation, learning and comparison of experience between United Nations duty stations, so that optimal practices are widely adopted, as appropriate;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to pursue the necessary management improvement measures as indicated in paragraph 26 above, and to report thereon to the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its forty-second session;

28. *Recalls* paragraph 28 of General Assembly resolution 54/249, in which it requested the Secretary-General to provide a better explanation in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003 on the use of standard costs and unit rates, notes with regret the absence of such explanations and requests the Secretary-General to address this matter in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004–2005;

29. *Emphasizes* that cost accounting and the system of costing outputs are an important part of an effective and transparent decision-making process, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on this subject;

30. *Reaffirms* the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation,[93] and requests the Secretary-General to implement regulation 5.6 of the regulations and rules and to report to the General Assembly on his effort, and also reaffirms that the application of rule 105.6 (*a*) should continue to reflect the understanding that approval of the medium-term plan and the programme budget constitute the reaffirmation of the mandate reflected therein;

31. *Notes with concern* the high cost of information technology-related equipment at some duty stations away from Headquarters;

32. *Recalls* its resolution 56/239 of 24 December 2001, in which it requested the Secretary-General to resubmit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session his proposed information technology strategy to improve efficiency, clarify responsibilities in the Secretariat, improve decision-making and identify information technology priorities;

33. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure a more consistent presentation of proposed expenditure on information technology-related services and equipment for the biennium 2004–2005, detailing the maintenance and unit costs for equipment and making a full distinction between internal and external costs;

34. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to conduct a review of library services covering the Dag Hammarskjöld Library, the libraries of the United Nations Offices at Geneva and at Vienna, libraries in the regional commissions, departmental libraries, libraries at information centres and depositary libraries, with a view to defining the purpose of United Nations library services and identifying primary clients or users and the relationships and roles of the libraries, including the best way to achieve their mandates through the relevant intergovernmental bodies, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

35. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to implement as soon as possible new and more efficient ways of providing library services;

36. *Decides* to make changes, as contained in annex I to the present resolution, to the programme narratives in the final published version of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003, as reflected in the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its forty-first session and the provisions of the present resolution;

37. *Requests* the Secretary-General to study the possibility of introducing a practice whereby user departments within the United Nations Secretariat are responsible from their own budgets for the consumption and payment of those central services currently borne centrally under section 27, Common support services, of the regular budget, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

III

38. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Advisory Committee contained in its reports on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003,[91] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

39. *Reaffirms* paragraph 6 of its resolution 55/233, whereby the General Assembly decided, inter alia, that additional requirements in the amount of 93.7 million United States dollars (before recosting) included in the proposed programme budget for the financing of special political missions should be financed in conformity with the provisions of resolution 41/213;

40. *Reaffirms its support* for maintaining the international character of the Organization and for the principles of efficiency, competence and integrity enshrined in Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations;

41. *Reaffirms* the role of the General Assembly with regard to the structure of the Secretariat, including the creation,

conversion, suppression and redeployment of posts, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide the General Assembly with comprehensive information on all decisions involving established and temporary high-level posts, including equivalent positions financed from the regular budget and from extrabudgetary resources;

42. *Emphasizes* that there shall be no arbitrary ceiling on the budget of the United Nations, and that resources proposed by the Secretary-General, in the context of the proposed programme budget, should be commensurate with all mandated programmes and activities, in order to ensure their full, effective and efficient implementation;

43. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004–2005, to submit estimates of the total amount of resources, from all sources of financing, that he should have at his disposal to be able to implement fully the mandated programmes and activities efficiently and effectively;

44. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session an updated study on a comprehensive solution to the problem of additional expenditures deriving from inflation and currency fluctuations, taking into account its resolution 41/213;

45. *Reaffirms* its role in carrying out a thorough analysis and approval of human and financial resources, with a view to ensuring the full, efficient and effective implementation of all mandated programmes and activities and the implementation of policies in this regard;

46. *Emphasizes* the need for Member States to provide adequate resources for the full, efficient and effective implementation of all mandated programmes and activities;

47. *Reiterates* the need for the Secretary-General to ensure that resources are utilized strictly for the purposes approved by the General Assembly;

48. *Notes* the substantial reliance on extrabudgetary resources in some sections of the proposed programme budget, in view of the mandated programmes and activities, of some programmes, and reiterates that core functions of the United Nations, as a principle, should be financed through apportionment among Member States;

49. *Notes with concern* the current and projected potential decreasing trend in extrabudgetary resources and that this decrease in some sections of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003 could have an adverse impact on the effective implementation of programmes and activities, especially those programmes that are still heavily funded primarily through such resources;

50. *Notes* that the bulk of extrabudgetary funds are tied to specific operations and utilized on the basis of donor wishes, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that this does not affect the nature of the programme or the orientation of its mandates;

51. *Requests* the Secretary-General to select consultants and experts, as well as staff charged against general temporary assistance, on as wide a geographical basis as possible, in accordance with the principles of the Charter and the provisions of General Assembly resolution 53/221 of 7 April 1999;

52. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that, in future programme budget proposals, requests for consultants and experts groups are clearly and separately identified in the programme narratives;

53. *Reaffirms* that the vacancy rate is a tool for budgetary calculations and should not be used to achieve budgetary savings;

54. *Also reaffirms* that deliberate management decisions should not be taken to keep a certain number of posts vacant, as this action makes the budget process less transparent and management of human and financial resources less efficient;

55. *Decides* that a vacancy rate of 6.5 per cent for Professional staff and 3.1 per cent for General Service staff shall be used as a basis for the calculation of the budget for the biennium 2002–2003;

56. *Notes* that, should the realized vacancy rates be lower than those budgeted, the General Assembly would provide additional resources, if required, in the first and/or second performance report, so as to preclude the need for any constraint on recruitment of staff;

57. *Requests* the Secretary-General to recruit staff expeditiously through proper planning and by streamlining personnel practices and procedures, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 55/238 of 23 December 2000, in order to avoid any adverse impact of a high vacancy rate on the effective and efficient implementation and delivery of mandated programmes and activities;

58. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that posts are not deliberately left vacant to provide a cushion for absorbing the costs of special missions and other activities authorized "within available resources";

59. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 62 and 63 of the annex to its resolution 51/241 of 31 July 1997;

60. *Regrets* that the Secretary-General did not undertake a comprehensive review of the post structure of the Secretariat and did not make proposals in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003 to address the top-heavy nature of the Organization;

61. *Decides* not to approve the upward reclassifications of the posts requested by the Secretary-General in the proposed budget for the biennium 2002–2003;

62. *Notes with concern* that the comprehensive review of the post structure of the Secretariat requested in its resolution 54/249 to address the top-heavy post structure of the Organization was not submitted, and reiterates that the comprehensive review be submitted to it at its fifty-seventh session;

63. *Also notes with concern* the number of reclassifications and new posts at senior levels proposed by the Secretary-General, which could lead to a further distortion in the pyramid staff structure of an Organization that is already top-heavy;

64. *Further notes with concern* the inadequacies of existing mechanisms for proposing and filling the reclassified posts, and requests the Secretary-General to establish a new mechanism centralizing within the auspices of the Office of Human Resources Management all proposals for reclassification, provided that all such proposals meet the following criteria:

(*a*) Proposals are of an exceptional nature;

(*b*) There is justification in terms of a change in the nature or scope of the work;

(*c*) There are full details outlining the increase in the responsibility;

(*d*) Such proposals are accompanied by justifiable and verifiable workload statistics;

(*e*) Any request involving the grading of a post must be justified solely in relation to the post itself and without reference to the incumbent or potential incumbent;

(*f*) The potential incumbent of the post being proposed for reclassification has encumbered that post for at least three years;

65. *Emphasizes* that the reclassification of posts should not be used as a promotion tool and that reclassified posts, as approved by the General Assembly, should be filled only in full conformity with the established procedures for recruitment and placement;

66. *Notes with concern* cases in which incumbents of posts are being paid at a level other than the one provided for in the budget, and requests the Secretary-General to provide a comprehensive report on this matter to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

67. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to comply strictly with the approved travel policies, standards, and regulations and rules, particularly with respect to ensuring that travel is undertaken by the most direct and economical route;

68. *Notes* the current use of videoconferencing as a means of communication within the United Nations, and requests the Secretary-General to study comprehensively this issue and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

69. *Requests* the Secretary-General to further enhance cooperation between relevant headquarters departments and regional commissions in order to ensure the quality of output and services to Member States and address the duplication and overlap of services, where they exist, and to improve the efficiency of programme support activities, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

70. *Decides* to reduce the resources proposed by the Secretary-General for allocation for specific operational requirements, as follows:

(*a*) Travel of staff, by 2.8 million dollars;

(*b*) Contractual services, by 6.4 million dollars;

(*c*) General operating expenses, by 19.7 million dollars;

(*d*) Supplies and materials, by 1.4 million dollars;

(*e*) Furniture and equipment, by 7.2 million dollars;

(*f*) Consultants and experts, with exception of resources allocated under section 9 for the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, and under sections 1 to 20 for the regional commissions, by 2 million dollars;

(*g*) Information technology, with exception of resources for the Economic Commission for Africa allocated under section 16, by 10 million dollars;

IV

71. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure a more balanced proportion of staff costs devoted to programme support in comparison with those devoted to the programme of work itself in all the regional commissions, in particular in the Economic Commission for Africa;

72. *Notes with concern* the high proportion of General Service posts compared to Professional posts in the regional commissions, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on efforts undertaken, as appropriate;

73. *Notes* paragraph VI.14 of the report of the Advisory Committee,[94] and requests the Secretary-General, as a general principle, to keep under review the ratio between General Service staff and Professional staff, taking into account the impact on the Organization of the investments in new technologies and bearing in mind the differentiated mandates and programmes of work of the various duty stations;

74. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in accordance with the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation,[93] to review the

publications and information materials of the United Nation to ensure that:

(*a*) They do not duplicate other United Nations publications;

(*b*) They have an identified target group;

(*c*) They are targeted to the appropriate audience;

(*d*) They have a significant impact on that audience;

(*e*) Recommendations are made on methods to strengthen the publication activities;

(*f*) The direct and indirect costs of producing, translating and disseminating the materials are identified;

and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

75. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure equal treatment for the six official languages in the Dag Hammarskjöld Library in both the traditional means of publication and in the electronic media, including the Internet;

76. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to consider the importance of specialists available at the Dag Hammarskjöld Library to provide services in cataloguing and collection maintenance in all six official languages, to facilitate the use of reference works and documents by delegations and to upgrade the Library's holdings of reference works and books in all relevant categories in all six official languages;

77. *Requests* the Secretary-General to accelerate his efforts to fill all posts currently vacant in the Dag Hammarskjöld Library and to ensure the prompt and efficient processing of materials in all six official languages;

Part I
Overall policy-making, direction and coordination

Section 1
Overall policy-making, direction and coordination

78. *Notes with concern* the potential for duplication in some functions between sections of the Office of External Relations and the Department of Public Information, both of which have functions that include outreach, promotion and maintenance of the relations of the United Nations with important actors in civil society and non-governmental organizations;

79. *Decides* to establish the position of Ombudsman at the level of Assistant Secretary-General in the Office of the Secretary-General, to be supported by a legal officer at the P-4 level, in place of the D-2 and the P-4 posts originally proposed under section 27A, Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Management, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on the adequate level of the post in the future;

Section 2
General Assembly affairs and conference services

80. *Notes with concern* that productivity standards for interpreters have not been reviewed since 1974 and that workload standards and processes for translation have not changed substantially, as well as the complaints about the quality of the interpretation and translation;

81. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that conference services are managed in an integrated manner throughout all duty stations in the Organization;

82. *Emphasizes* that all duty stations shall be given equal treatment in respect of conference services and, in this regard, requests the Secretary-General to provide adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their mandates;

83. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, or no later than its fifty-seventh session, through the relevant intergovernmental and expert bodies, specific proposals for the conversion of some of the temporary assistant posts requested in section 2 into established posts wherever that would measurably lead to higher efficiency and better quality of services;

84. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on working methods, functions and productivity standards, and on the quality and quantity of those functions of the Department of General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services, and on the backstopping functions within the Secretariat, bearing in mind the need to make proposals for the efficient use of resources and to consider the best way to fulfil its mandates;

85. *Notes* the information contained in paragraph I.76 of the report of the Advisory Committee[94] that the billing arrangement used by the United Nations Office at Nairobi for conference services was working fairly well, and requests the Secretary-General to take further measures to address instances of irregular cash flow;

86. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in the budget performance reports comprehensive information (in tabular form) on the use of temporary assistance in the United Nations language services at duty stations under the responsibility of the Department of General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services, with the breakdown for languages, number of staff (local and non-local), number of workdays and expenditures (on local and non-local staff);

87. *Decides* to reduce the allocation of resources proposed for travel costs under subprogramme 2 in New York by 20,000 dollars;

Part II
Political affairs

Section 3
Political affairs

88. *Notes with concern* the potential for duplication of some activities under subprogramme 4 with the Department of Public Information;

89. *Decides* to reduce the allocation of resources proposed for travel of representatives under policy-making organs by 10,000 dollars;

Section 4
Disarmament

90. *Decides* to establish two new posts in the Professional category (1 P-5 and 1 P-4) and one new General Service (Other level) post;

Part III
International justice and law

Section 7
International Court of Justice

91. *Recalls* its resolution 55/257 of 14 June 2001;

92. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite the International Court of Justice to review its management functions, with a view to introducing a system of results-based budgeting, modernizing work-flow processes and enhancing the use of information technology for, inter alia, remote translation and the introduction of a performance appraisal system for staff;

Section 8
Legal affairs

93. *Requests* the Secretary-General to pursue increased timeliness and availability of international law codification documents and legal instruments in all six official languages of the United Nations;

Part IV
International cooperation for development

Section 9
Economic and social affairs

94. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider, in consultation with relevant intergovernmental bodies, with respect to the delivery of advisory services to Member States, avoiding duplication and achieving optimum and effective use of resources, and to report thereon to the relevant intergovernmental bodies at the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly;

95. *Decides* to establish seven new P-2 posts as recommended by the Advisory Committee as well as two further P-2 posts as submitted in the proposed programme budget;

Section 10
Africa: New Agenda for Development

96. *Reaffirms once again* the decision contained in paragraph 95 of its resolution 54/249 to assign priority to the development of Africa, and reiterates its previous request to the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to mobilize additional resources for the implementation of the programme of action contained in the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s;

97. *Notes with appreciation* African-led and African-owned development plans, such as the New Partnership for Africa's Development;

Section 11A
Trade and development

98. *Emphasizes* that management restructuring should produce clearly defined gains in productivity and/or economies;

Section 12
Environment

99. *Notes* that the activities undertaken by the United Nations Environment Programme continue to depend heavily on extrabudgetary resources for their implementation, requests the Secretary-General to make every effort to ensure stability and predictability in funding the activities of the United Nations Environment Programme, and, in this regard, reiterates paragraph 110 of its resolution 54/249;

Section 13
Human settlements

100. *Notes* that the activities undertaken by the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) continue to depend heavily on extrabudgetary resources for their implementation, requests the Secretary-General to make every effort to ensure stability and predictability in funding the activities of the Centre, and, in this regard, reiterates paragraph 114 of its resolution 54/249;

101. *Emphasizes* the need for the Centre to be provided with adequate human and financial resources to enable it to implement effectively the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,[96] adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fifth special session;

102. *Reiterates* its request to the Secretary-General contained in paragraph 111 of its resolution 54/249, in

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[96] Resolution S-25/2, annex.

accordance with paragraph 229 of the Habitat Agenda[97] and in consultation with the Commission on Human Settlements, to continue to ensure more effective functioning of the Centre by, inter alia, providing sufficient human and financial resources within the regular budget of the United Nations;

Section 14
Crime prevention and criminal justice

103. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make proposals to strengthen the Terrorism Prevention Branch at the United Nations Office at Vienna to enable it to carry out its mandate as approved by the General Assembly, and to report thereon to the General Assembly for its consideration;

Section 15
International drug control

104. *Notes with deep concern* the reports of serious management irregularities in the United Nations drug-control activities, as documented in recent reports of the Board of Auditors and the Office of Internal Oversight Services;

105. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary actions to correct immediately the management problems;

Part V
Regional cooperation for development

Section 16
Economic and social development in Africa

106. *Notes with concern* the high vacancy rate in the Economic Commission for Africa, and in this regard reiterates paragraph 50 of its resolution 54/249;

107. *Regrets* that the request contained in paragraph 123 of its resolution 54/249 to achieve a vacancy rate of no more than 5 per cent within the biennium 2000–2001 was not met and, in this regard, requests the Secretary-General to take immediate steps to decrease substantially the persistently high vacancy rate which negatively affects programme delivery in the Commission;

108. *Recalls* paragraph 123 of its resolution 54/249, in which it requested the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures, as a matter of priority, to achieve a vacancy rate of no more than 5 per cent;

109. *Expresses its deep concern* that the Economic Commission for Africa is still suffering from a significantly high vacancy rate at the Professional level, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that all posts budgeted for the biennium 2002–2003 are filled;

110. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to redeploy to the subregional development centres any savings realized during the biennium as a result of reform measures and efficiency gains from within the Economic Commission for Africa;

111. *Also reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to provide the African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders with the core Professional staff required to enable it to function effectively towards the fulfilment of its mandates;

112. *Expresses concern* about the inadequate connectivity between the headquarters of the Economic Commission for Africa and the five subregional development centres and between the Commission and the rest of the United Nations system, and, in this regard, decides to exempt the Commission from the proposed reductions in information technology referred to in paragraph 70 (*g*) of the present resolution;

113. *Emphasizes* the need to improve the capacity of the Economic Commission for Africa to disseminate information effectively through the use of electronic methods, and, in this regard, shares the opinion of the Advisory Committee contained in paragraph V.20 of its report[94] that the programme of modernization of operations of the Commission is important and that the provision of resources therefor should not be dependent upon the possibility of absorption within the Commission's appropriations, and requests the Secretary-General to report in the context of the budget performance report on the additional expenditure that might be incurred;

114. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on progress in implementing new communications technologies and resulting efficiencies in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004–2005;

115. *Recognizes* that the Economic Commission for Africa will have a major role to play in the implementation of the new African initiatives, such as the New Partnership for Africa's Development;

Section 17
Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific

116. *Requests* the Secretary-General to pursue his efforts to maximize the use of the Conference Centre, including its external use, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

Section 18
Economic development in Europe

117. *Notes with concern* the lack of detail in the proposed programme budget of unit costs for the replacement or acquisition of information technology-related equipment;

118. *Notes* the increase in proposed resources for external support for strengthening the information technology platform;

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[97] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3–14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

Section 19
Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean

119. *Commends* the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean for the implementation of the reform programme for the Commission;

120. *Expresses its deep concern* at the decreasing trend in extrabudgetary resources and at its impact on the level of technical cooperation activities;

121. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session concrete proposals to address the impact of declining extrabudgetary resources for the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

122. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all the necessary means are provided for the full implementation of all subprogrammes and their respective activities;

123. *Notes with concern* that consultants and experts are also used for verifying the views of the Secretariat;

Section 20
Economic and social development in Western Asia

124. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure fully the issuance of all documents and publications of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia in Arabic, which is most relevant to the requirements of the Member States of the region, as well as in the other working languages of the Commission, to meet the requirements of readers outside the region, as appropriate, and to report thereon to the General Assembly by its fifty-seventh session;

Part VI
Human rights and humanitarian affairs

Section 22
Human rights

125. *Notes with concern* that section 22 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003 was prepared prior to the adoption of the medium-term plan by the General Assembly and that it was not reformulated in its submission in accordance with the medium-term plan approved by the Assembly;

126. *Notes* that resources proposed for activities related to the right to development, research and analysis are not clearly differentiated in subprogramme 1, and requests the Secretary-General to submit concrete proposals to address this issue in the context of the revisions of the medium-term plan to be considered by the Committee for Programme and Coordination;

127. *Notes also* that there are twenty-two subcommissions, committees and other groups involved in the programme of work of human rights, and requests the Secretary-General to make proposals through the relevant intergovernmental bodies with a view to rationalizing and streamlining the human rights machinery, as well as the establishment of rapporteurs and the number of meetings, reports and publications, in order to avoid duplication and promote efficiency and effectiveness, and to report thereon in the context of the next programme budget;

128. *Requests* the Secretary-General to entrust to the Office of Internal Oversight Services a comprehensive management review of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, including its working methods and functions, bearing in mind the need to make proposals for the efficient and effective use of resources as well as its organizational structure, and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the actions taken thereon;

129. *Notes* that the bulk of extrabudgetary funds are tied to specific operations and are utilized on the basis of donor wishes, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the practice of tied funds does not affect the policies of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights or the Commission on Human Rights and its subsidiary bodies as impartial international instruments for the advancement of human rights;

130. *Decides* to establish one new P-3 post and one new General Service (Other level) post for the functions in the Office;

131. *Decides also* to reduce the proposed allocation of resources for furniture and equipment under programme support by 40,200 dollars;

132. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that funding for the Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa will be formally made an integral part of the regular budget for human rights in future bienniums;

Section 23
Protection of and assistance to refugees

133. *Deeply regrets* that some amounts previously funded under posts, other staff costs, general operating expenses and supplies and materials have been presented in a less transparent manner under the provision of grants and contributions;

134. *Requests* the Secretary-General to reinstate resource requirements by object of expenditure with provisions other than grants and contributions, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

135. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to review the funding of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees from the regular budget in a transparent manner;

136. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to present resource requirements by object of expenditure with provisions other than grants and contributions in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004–2005;

Section 24
Palestine refugees

137. *Welcomes* the efforts of a number of donors during the past year to the programme;

138. *Notes with concern* the direct impact of the decrease in extrabudgetary resources on the quality of services provided by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East;

139. *Decides* to restore to the regular budget five additional international posts (one P-5 and four P-4) currently financed from the Agency's extrabudgetary resources, in line with General Assembly resolution 3331 B (XXIX) of 17 December 1974;

Section 25
Humanitarian assistance

140. *Decides* to establish three P-4 posts for the functions of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs;

Part VII
Public information

Section 26
Public information

141. *Decides* to establish a P-3 post in the News and Media Division for a Portuguese-language radio producer;

142. *Also decides* to establish a P-3 post at the United Nations Information Centre at Dar es Salaam;

143. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make available web site language assistance in the Information Technology Section of the Department of Public Information, in Arabic, Chinese, Russian and Spanish, and to make proposals as he deems appropriate so that all official languages are equally serviced;

144. *Emphasizes* the need for the United Nations to have a coordinated public information strategy in order to bring the activities of different parts of the Secretariat together in an integrated way;

145. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session concrete proposals on strengthening the Department of Public Information within the existing capacity in order to support and enhance the United Nations web site in all the official languages of the Organization;

146. *Emphasizes* that the public information resources of the Organization must be targeted properly to ensure that the United Nations delivers a consistent message, through a variety of outlets, to the largest possible worldwide audience;

147. *Recognizes* the critical role of the Official Document System as a primary tool for accessing all forms of United Nations documentation and the United Nations web site as the public gateway to the activities of the Organization;

148. *Requests* the Secretary-General to improve the justification provided for the resources requested for the United Nations information centres in the context of the next proposed programme budget;

149. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the financial implications of redressing the imbalance among the six official languages of the United Nations on the United Nations web site;

150. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to conduct a comprehensive review of the management and operations of the Department of Public Information, taking into account the medium-term plan, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session, addressing, among other things:

(*a*) Ways to carry out these activities in the most effective and efficient manner;

(*b*) Focusing of the activities of the Department to reflect better the substantive priorities and relevant mandates of the Organization;

(*c*) The need for greater coordination of public information activities among departments of the Secretariat to avoid duplication of efforts and to strengthen complementarity, where appropriate;

(*d*) Assessment of the impact of United Nations information centres, taking into account their mandates;

(*e*) The option and benefit of funding the United Nations information centres on a cost-shared basis with other United Nations entities that benefit from the services of the information centres in each location;

151. *Notes with concern* the fact that the post of the Director of the Office of the United Nations Information Centre for Central Africa is still vacant despite several appeals by Member States of the subregion to ensure that a person is appointed to fill it;

152. *Decides* to resume publication of the *United Nations Chronicle* in all official languages, as proposed by the Secretary-General, and allocates 700,000 dollars for this purpose, and welcomes the intention of using a co-publishing mechanism in publishing the *Chronicle*;

Part VIII
Common support services

Section 27
Management and central support services

153. *Requests* the Secretary-General to conduct an evaluation through the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the implementation of all provisions of resolutions 55/231 on results-based budgeting and 55/258 of 14 June 2001 on human resources management by the Department of Management, including the Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Management, and to report thereon to the General Assembly;

Section 27A
Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Management

154. *Expresses concern* about the large number of posts and amount of resources that are devoted to management activities and programme support in the Department of Management and all the other departments;

155. *Stresses* the need for the Integrated Management Information System to be enabled to manage and execute its administrative tasks, as foreseen when it was first proposed to the General Assembly;[98]

156. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with the assistance of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, to review administrative tasks, procedures and policies with a view to eliminating duplication, and unnecessary and complex bureaucratic procedures and practices within all departments and entities of the Secretariat, and to ensure that the Organization is managed in an integrated manner in order to eliminate duplication;

157. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the necessary equipment is available for the work of the Main Committees of the General Assembly so as to make the Secretariat more efficient, effective and modern;

Section 27D
Office of Central Support Services

158. *Decides* to reduce general operating expenditures as explained in paragraph A.27D.16 of the proposed programme budget[99] by 100,000 dollars and to eliminate the maintenance and support of Dictaphones in the Organization, as it is incompatible with the goals of an "e-Organization";

159. *Also decides* not to approve the increase of 2,116,800 dollars for furniture and equipment in the Information Technology Services Division;

160. *Invites* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to expand free access to the Official Document System, taking into account the technical capacity of the Office on the Internet in the six official languages of the United Nations, without affecting the quality of the service provided;

Section 27G
Administration, Nairobi

161. *Welcomes* the commitment of the Secretary-General to increase gradually the regular budget component of the United Nations Office at Nairobi, with a view to easing the administrative costs levied on the substantive programmes of the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), and requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on his plan for the upcoming bienniums;

162. *Also welcomes* the establishment of a permanent interpretation service at the United Nations Office at Nairobi, and notes with satisfaction that the conference services facility at the United Nations Office at Nairobi is becoming organizationally, functionally and in terms of the budget an integral part of the Department of General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services and that the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003 for the Division of Conference Services is programmed in the context of section 2;

163. *Reaffirms* paragraph 178 of its resolution 54/249, in which it requested the Secretary-General to bring the financial arrangements of the United Nations Office at Nairobi into line with those of similar United Nations administrative offices;

164. *Notes* the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on the need to determine more accurately the level of services that the United Nations Office at Nairobi is required to provide to the organizations at Nairobi and the rates for reimbursing the cost of those services, and requests the Secretary-General to expedite the completion of the agreements between the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and the United Nations Office at Nairobi to this effect;

Part X
Jointly financed administrative activities and special expenses

Section 29
Jointly financed administrative activities

165. *Stresses* the need to ensure that the independence of the Joint Inspection Unit, as the only system-wide external oversight body, is not compromised through the budgetary process;

166. *Reiterates* its decision 54/454 of 23 December 1999;

167. *Reaffirms* the statute of the Unit, in particular article 20, paragraph 1;

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[98] See A/C.5/43/24, para. 54.

[99] See A/56/6 (Sect. 27D). For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No 6.*

Income section 2
General income

168. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue with the current arrangement regarding rental charges for the Office of the Group of 77 and China located at United Nations Headquarters.

Annex I

Changes to the programme narratives of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003[90] as reflected in the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination in its report on the work of its forty-first session,[92] and additional modifications

Section 2
General Assembly affairs and conference services

1. In paragraph 2.7, at the end of the last sentence, replace "on an as-available basis from within the existing capacity of the Department" with "in accordance with paragraph 4 of section I of General Assembly resolution 55/222 of 23 December 2000".

2. In paragraph 2.8, at the end of the fourth sentence, insert ", without prejudice to the mandates of the General Assembly".

3. In paragraph 2.19 (*d*), at the end of the subparagraph, replace "within available resources" with ", in accordance with the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and the relevant United Nations resolutions on decolonisation."

4. In paragraph 2.46 (*a*), after "Translation and writing of summary records." add "Translation and publishing of the *Repertoire of Practice of the Security Council* in the six official languages;".

5. In paragraph 2.48, at the end of the fourth sentence, insert ", in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 54/248 and 55/222".

Section 3
Political affairs

6. In paragraph 3.3, after "while fully respecting the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of Member States", in accordance with paragraph 1.3 of the medium-term plan for 2002–2005,[95] add the following:

> "and the principles of non-intervention in matters that are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State and of consent".

7. In table 3.12:

(*a*) At the end of the text under "Expected accomplishments", add ", in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Security Council";

(*b*) Under "Indicators of achievement", replace the existing text of subparagraph (i) with "Provision of electoral assistance to Member States in response to their request".

8. In paragraph 3.26:

(*a*) Replace "a fair and free" with "an";

(*b*) At the end of the paragraph add ", in accordance with relevant resolutions and decisions".

9. In paragraph 3.27:

(*a*) In subparagraph (*a*) (i) a., delete "the principle of periodic and genuine", and add at the end ", in accordance with relevant resolutions and decisions";

(*b*) In subparagraph (*d*) (ii), replace "authorities at the regional, national or local level" with "national electoral institutions".

10. In paragraph 3.38, after the first sentence, in accordance with paragraph 1.26 of the medium-term plan, add the following sentence:

> "Assistance will be provided to the Committee in promoting a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of the question of Palestine in accordance with all relevant United Nations resolutions, as well as the full and effective implementation of the Israeli-Palestinian peace agreements."

Section 4
Disarmament

11. Replace paragraph 4.1, with the following:

> "General and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control remains the ultimate goal of all efforts exerted in the field of disarmament. The main responsibilities for disarmament lie with Member States, and the United Nations, in accordance with its Charter, has a central role and primary responsibility in supporting Member States in this sphere. The Department for Disarmament Affairs, headed by an Under-Secretary-General, is responsible for the implementation of the programme."

12. Replace paragraph 4.2 with the following:

> "The mandate for the programme derives from the priorities established in General Assembly resolutions and decisions in the field of disarmament, including the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament (resolution S-10/2). While weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, continue to be the primary concern, the Organization would also continue its work in the field of conventional disarmament."

13. In paragraph 4.4, in the first sentence, replace the phrase "as well as to expert groups on disarmament studies" with "as well as review conferences, other meetings of States parties to multilateral agreements on disarmament and related matters and expert groups assisting the Secretary-General in undertaking disarmament studies".

14. After paragraph 4.4, insert a new paragraph 4.5 to read as follows:

> "4.5 Training and advisory services will continue to be provided through the United Nations disarmament fellowships, training and advisory services programme and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research for Member States, in particular developing countries, to enhance their expertise with a view to participating more effectively in international deliberating and negotiating forums. The Department will also assist Member States in increasing understanding among them of the relationship between disarmament and development."

and renumber the subsequent paragraphs.

15. In former paragraph 4.6, delete "and landmine issues".

16. In former paragraph 4.14:

(*a*) In the second sentence, after "international disarmament agenda", delete "in order to make them conform to the new international political and security environment";

(*b*) Replace the third and fourth sentences with the following:

> "The Conference on Disarmament will be finalizing its work programme, which will include resuming negotiations on a number of disarmament issues and continuing the promotion of global disarmament, in accordance with its agenda."

17. In table 4.7:

(*a*) Under "Indicators of achievement":

(i) In paragraph (*a*), after "effectiveness of", add "the services provided by the Secretariat to facilitate";

(ii) Replace paragraph (*c*) with the following:

> "An increase in the number of applicants for the United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services programme, wider representation of Member States in the programme and greater support for the disarmament fellowship programme from Member States."

18. In table 4.9:

(*a*) Under "Expected accomplishments":

(i) In paragraph (*a*), replace the text after "disarmament issues" with the following: "and on matters related to weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, by Member States,";

(ii) In paragraph (*b*), replace "including the issue of missiles" with "on specific issues related to weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons".

(*b*) Under "Indicators of achievement", subparagraph (*a*) (i) should read:

> "A record of appreciation for assistance provided, including substantive and organizational support, for the implementation of agreements in the field of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons. This would include sessions of the Preparatory Committee for the 2005 Review Conference and ad hoc meetings;".

19. In former paragraph 4.25:

(*a*) In subparagraph (*a*) (iv), delete "and the panel of governmental experts on missiles (2 sessions, 40 meetings, 2000)";

(*b*) In subparagraph (*a*) (v), after "2 sessions", add ", 40 meetings, 2002" within the parentheses;

(*c*) In all instances where the phrase "weapons of mass destruction" appears, if it has not already been done, add ", in particular nuclear weapons".

Section 5
Peacekeeping operations

20. In paragraph 5.3:

(*a*) Replace the first sentence with the entire text of paragraph 3.1 of the medium-term plan for the period 2002–2005, as follows:

> "The overall purpose of the programme is the maintenance of peace and security through the deployment of peacekeeping operations in accordance with the principles and provisions of the Charter of the United Nations. The legislative authority for the programme derives from the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations. The mandates of the programme are provided in resolutions of the Security Council and General Assembly resolutions on the comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects on the administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations and on assistance in mine clearance. In respect of peacekeeping operations, legislative authority derives from decisions and resolutions of the Security Council related to particular operations."

(*b*) In the seventh sentence, replace "on a broad geographic basis" with "and on as wide a geographical basis as possible";

(*c*) After the seventh sentence, add the following sentence:

> "However, this will not affect the troop-contributing countries in taking their sovereign decisions on the composition of their units deployed to peacekeeping operations within the mission's specific guidelines, as agreed upon by troop-contributing countries."

21. In paragraph 5.8, at the end of the penultimate sentence, replace "peace operations" with "peacekeeping operations".

22. In paragraph 5.24, after "Security Council mandates", delete "and that other parties … their role".

23. In paragraph 5.25 (*c*), after "and provision of support to meetings with Member States," replace the remainder of the subparagraph with the following:

> "by other Organizations within the United Nations system, as well as with other regional organizations and actors, in accordance with legislative mandates".

24. In table 5.11, under "Indicators of achievement" in paragraph (*b*), add two additional indicators, as follows:

> "(i) Reduction in the duration of the liquidation process;
>
> "(ii) Timeliness of the processing and settling of claims of troop-contributing countries by the Claims and Information Management Section of the Finance Management and Support Service."

25. In paragraph 5.32, after "required military and civilian police components", add "that meet the relevant prerequisites of the peacekeeping missions", and delete the words "to peacekeeping missions".

26. In paragraph 5.33, in subparagraphs (*b*), (*c*) and (*d*), replace "peace operations" with "peacekeeping operation(s)".

Section 6
Peaceful uses of outer space

27. In table 6.3:

(*a*) Under "Expected accomplishments", paragraph (*c*) should read:

> "Increased access and use of space technologies by developing countries in their efforts to promote economic, social and cultural development."

(*b*) Under "Indicators of achievement":

(i) Reletter paragraph (*c*) as (*c*) (i), which should read:

> "(*c*) (i) An increase in the number of projects and activities carried out by developing countries to promote economic, social and cultural development through bilateral and multilateral cooperation, with access to and use of space technologies."

(ii) Insert the following text as paragraph (*c*) (ii):

> "(ii) An increase in and further enhancement of training opportunities for developing countries, including fellowships provided to individuals from developing countries to participate in workshops, expert meetings and training courses on various topics of space science and technology and its application."

Section 8
Legal affairs

28. In table 8.8:

(*a*) Replace the entire text under "Expected accomplishments" with the following:

> "Provision of quality legal advice to the principal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations, leading to an increased understanding of international law, including the United Nations legal regime."

(*b*) Replace the entire text under "Indicators of achievement" with the following:

> "(*a*) Quality, timeliness and accuracy of advice.
>
> "(*b*) Number of instruments finalized.
>
> "(*c*) Number and impact of opinions rendered on violations of international legal instruments for the conduct of United Nations operations."

29. In table 8.10:

(*a*) Replace the entire text under "Expected accomplishments" with the following:

> "(*a*) Greater protection of the Organization's legal rights and minimization of its legal liabilities, through the provision of quality legal advice to the principal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations, leading to an increased understanding of the Organization's legal rights and obligations.
>
> "(*b*) Provision of legal advice and support aimed at enabling offices, departments and subsidiary organs to maximize their compliance with regulations, rules and administrative issuances consistent with the Organization's policies and purposes."

(*b*) Replace the entire text under "Indicators of achievement" with the following:

> "(*a*) Quality, accuracy and timeliness of legal advice and support.
>
> "(*b*) Number and impact of legal opinions and other legal advice such that the United Nations offices are in a better position to interpret and apply provisions of the

United Nations legal regime to specific cases and to comply with such provisions."

30. In table 8.12:

Under "Indicators of achievement", replace paragraphs *(a)* and *(b)* with the following:

"*(a)* Increase in the number of new legal instruments emanating from the process of codification, adherence by States to existing instruments; and satisfaction expressed by Member States with the quality, volume and timeliness of documentation prepared by the Codification Division.

"*(b)* The quality of publications and seminars dealing with issues of international law and an increase in the number of visitors to the Division's web site."

31. In table 8.14:

(a) Replace the entire text under "Expected accomplishments" with the following:

"*(a)* Greater respect for and acceptance of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the related Agreements and a higher degree of uniformity and consistency in their application.

"*(b)* Increased opportunities for States to derive benefits from the oceans and seas in conformity with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea."

(b) Replace the entire text under "Indicators of achievement" with the following:

"*(a)* An increase in the number of legal instruments developed by States and international organizations in the field of the law of the sea and ocean affairs.

"*(b)* The degree of satisfaction on the part of Member States, reflected in:

"(i) Acknowledgement by Member States that the products and services provided through the subprogramme assisted their maritime programmes;

"(ii) Increased participation of Member States in bodies and processes relating to oceans and the law of the sea."

32. In table 8.16:

(a) Replace the entire text under "Expected accomplishments" with:

"*(a)* Modernization of trade practices.

"*(b)* Reduction of legal uncertainties and obstacles posed by inadequate and disparate laws.

"*(c)* More efficient trade negotiations.

"*(d)* Simplification of the administration of transaction and lower transaction costs.

"*(e)* Reduction of disputes in international trade."

(b) Replace the entire text under "Indicators of achievement" with the following:

"*(a)* A higher number of transactions or a higher volume of international trade carried out under the regime of UNCITRAL legislative and non-legislative texts.

"*(b)* An increase in the number of legislative decisions based on UNCITRAL texts.

"*(c)* An increase in the number of merchants using or relying on harmonized international trade law in conducting trade."

33. In table 8.18:

(a) Replace the entire text under "Expected accomplishments" with the following:

"*(a)* Improved access to international treaties deposited with the Secretary-General, including their status, and to treaties registered with the Secretariat.

"*(b)* Respect for the international treaty framework and the advancement of the international rule of law."

(b) Replace the entire text under "Indicators of achievement" with the following:

"*(a)* Timely processing, registration and publication of international treaties deposited with the Secretary-General in accordance with Article 102 of the Charter, and of actions relating to treaties deposited with the Secretary-General, including the United Nations *Treaty Series*, multilateral treaties deposited with the Secretary-General, the monthly Statement of Treaties and International Agreements and the United Nations *Treaty Series* Cumulative Index; and the timely availability of such information through electronic services.

"*(b)* Increased application of information obtained through services provided under this subprogramme, including electronic services.

"*(c)* Greater satisfaction of users with the services provided by the Treaty Section, including electronic services."

Section 9
Economic and social affairs

34. In table 9.9:

(a) Under "Expected accomplishments", add new paragraphs *(e)*, *(f)* and *(g)* as follows:

> "(*e*) Establishment of an expanded framework for information exchange and communication with Governments and civil society.
>
> "(*f*) Increased efficiency and effectiveness of the Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality.
>
> "(*g*) An increased number of ratifications of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Optional Protocol thereto, increased compliance by States parties with reporting obligations under the Convention and improved coordination between the Division for the Advancement of Women and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in contributing to the development and strengthening of human rights mechanisms to ensure the enjoyment by women of their human rights."

(*b*) Under "Indicators of achievement", add new paragraphs (*e*) and (*f*) as follows:

> "(*e*) The number of ratifications of the Convention and the Optional Protocol thereto, the number of States parties submitting their reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on time and the number of reports examined by the Committee.
>
> "(*f*) The development of tools and methodologies and the promotion of good practices with respect to system-wide gender mainstreaming by the Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality of the United Nations System Chief Executive Board for Coordination, including enhancement of the capabilities of the regional economic commissions to work as focal points for inter-agency coordination on gender issues within the United Nations system."

35. In paragraph 9.62 (*a*) (iii) b.:

After "Reports on:" add "existing studies, information and documentation on abuse against older persons;".

36. In table 9.13:

(*a*) Under "Expected accomplishments", reletter paragraph (*c*) as (*c*) (i) and insert a new subparagraph (*c*) (ii), reading as follows:

> "(ii) Improved coordination of the implementation of the World Solar Programme."

(*b*) Under "Indicators of achievement", paragraph (*c*), after the phrase "sustainable development", insert the phrase ", including the World Solar Programme".

37. In paragraph 9.69 (*a*) (vi), in the last sentence, after the word, "development", add ", including solar energy".

38. In table 9.21, under "Expected accomplishments", replace paragraph (*e*) with the following text:

> "Improved access by Governments and international bodies to analytical tools, options and adequate methodologies regarding the linkages between political and economic issues and policies, such as economic sanctions, imposition of coercive economic measures, the relationship between disarmament and development and relevant aspects of post-conflict rehabilitation and reconstruction."

Section 10
Africa: New Agenda for Development

39. In table 10.4:

(*a*) Under "Expected accomplishments", replace paragraph (*b*) with the following:

> "Greater awareness and understanding of African development issues, including those related to post-conflict situations."

(*b*) Under "Indicators of achievement":

(i) In paragraph (*b*), after "The contribution" add "and impact";

(ii) After paragraph (*d*), add the following paragraphs *(e)* to *(i)*:

> "(*e*) An assessment of the quality and timeliness of reports submitted to intergovernmental policy-making and review bodies to facilitate deliberations on Africa.
>
> "(*f*) The number and usefulness of briefing sessions on issues concerning African development.
>
> "(*g*) The number and usefulness of South-South forums sponsored or co-sponsored.
>
> "(*h*) The number of visits to the Africa web page.
>
> "(*i*) The use of databases on the activities of non-governmental organizations and other non-governmental partners contributing to African development."

40. In table 10.6:

(*a*) Under "Expected accomplishments", add paragraphs *(d)* and *(e)* as follows:

> "(*d*) Improved reporting on and dissemination of experiences in the implementation of programmes and initiatives on Africa.
>
> "(*e*) Strengthened national economic management capacity as an integral component of peace-building and post-conflict resolution."

(*b*) Under "Indicators of achievement":

(i) Add the following paragraph (*a*) and reletter the subsequent paragraphs accordingly:

"(*a*) Expression of satisfaction over the support provided to Member States in implementing the programme of action."

(ii) In new paragraphs (*c*) and (*d*), add "and impact" after "The number";

(iii) Add paragraphs (*e*) and (*f*) after paragraph (*d*) as follows:

"(*e*) The number and impact of forums and expert meetings organized to access and monitor the rate of implementation of the action programme.

"(*f*) The number and impact of training activities organized and development personnel benefiting from them."

41. In table 10.8, replace the two indicators of achievement with the following:

"(*a*) Assessment by users of the quality and volume of information disseminated regionally and internationally through the print and electronic media outlets.

"(*b*) The timely and regular issuance of *Africa Recovery*.

"(*c*) The number and quality of informational materials prepared and media events organized in order to maintain the international spotlight on Africa."

Section 11A
Trade and development

42. In paragraph 11A.2, after the last sentence, insert the following sentence:

> "It is foreseen that the Trade and Development Board will mainstream the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010 within the work programme of UNCTAD, as well as in the UNCTAD intergovernmental process. It is also foreseen that similar efforts will be undertaken by the governing bodies of all United Nations system organizations, as appropriate."

Section 12
Environment

43. In paragraph 12.21:

(*a*) In the second sentence, replace "collection, analysis and interpretation of data" with the words "collection and analysis of data";

(*b*) In the third sentence, after "reporting arrangements", add "invited it to submit its programme of work to the Assembly".

44. In paragraph 12.22, at the end of the last sentence, add "in consultation with scientists and experts from interested Member States".

45. In table 12.10:

(*a*) Insert a new expected accomplishment (*e*) as follows:

"(*e*) The implementation of a new strategic environmental law programme for the first decade of the millennium."

(*b*) Insert a new indicator of achievement (*e*) as follows:

"(*e*) The adoption by the Governing Council of a new strategic environmental law programme."

46. In table 12.14:

(*a*) Insert a new expected accomplishment (*f*) as follows:

"(*f*) Adherence to the goals of the International Declaration on Cleaner Production."

(*b*) Insert a new indicator of achievement (*f*) as follows:

"(*f*) The number of signatures to the International Declaration on Cleaner Production."

Section 13
Human settlements

47. In table 13.9, under "Expected accomplishments", replace "city authorities" with "local authorities".

Section 14
Crime prevention and criminal justice

48. In table 14.5:

(*a*) Under "Expected accomplishments", replace paragraph (*b*) with paragraph 12.7 (*b*) of the medium-term plan for the period 2002–2005, as follows:

> "The expansion of global knowledge of and expertise to deal with crime problems such as those posed by transnational organized crime, trafficking in persons, economic and financial crime, including money-laundering, corruption, illicit manufacturing and trafficking in firearms and terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, as well as to promote fair and efficient criminal justice systems."

(*b*) Under "Indicators of achievement":

(i) Replace paragraph (*b*) with paragraph 12.8 (*b*) of the medium-term plan, as modified below:

> "Awareness of best practices and information disseminated, research undertaken and new techniques developed and shared among Member

> States to respond to crime problems as well as to promote fair and efficient criminal justice systems."

(ii) In subparagraphs (*c*) (i) and (iii), replace "transnational organized crime, trafficking in persons, corruption and terrorism in all its forms and manifestations" with the words "crime problems".

49. In paragraph 14.18 (*a*), replace "Readiness of Governments to ratify" with "Cooperation of Member States in ratifying".

50. In paragraph 14.18 (*b*), delete "including from sensitive government data sources".

51. In paragraph 14.19 (*a*), add a new subparagraph (vi), reading:

> "(vi) Ad Hoc Committee for the negotiation of a legal instrument against corruption:
>
> "a. Substantive servicing of meetings. Six sessions of two weeks' duration (120 meetings);
>
> "b. Parliamentary documentation. Six reports to the Ad Hoc Committee, including annotated agendas with the transmission of a draft text, contributions and proposals by States; six reports on each session of the Ad Hoc Committee."

52. Paragraph 14.19 (*a*) (v) should read:

> "Ad hoc expert groups (RB/XB): Four regional expert group meetings on technical issues of common regional concern on the ratification and/or implementation of the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its three protocols; one expert group meeting each on: the criminal misuse of information technologies; best practices to combat trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants by land, sea and air, with attention given to the gender dimensions; best practices in combating corruption, with attention given to the gender dimensions; hostage situations and rescue operations; recognizing early warning signals of terrorist escalation; and legal approaches to combating terrorism;".

53. Delete paragraph 14.19 (*d*) (ii).

Section 15
International drug control

54. In table 15.7:

(*a*) Under "Expected accomplishments", add new paragraphs (*e*) and (*f*), as follows:

> "(*e*) Improved coordination of drug control-related activities throughout the United Nations system, with UNDCP providing leadership.
>
> "(*f*) Progress made towards the adoption and implementation of measures to strengthen national legislation and progress giving effect to the action plan against the illicit manufacture, trafficking and abuse of amphetamine-type stimulants and their precursors; measures to eliminate or reduce significantly the illicit manufacture, marketing and trafficking of other psychotropic substances, including synthetic drugs, and the diversion of precursors; national legislation and programmes to counter money-laundering; and measures to promote and strengthen judicial cooperation."

(*b*) Under "Indicators of achievement", add new paragraphs *(e)* and *(f)*, as follows:

> "(*e*) The completion of needs assessments for multilateral cooperation on drug control.
>
> "(*f*) Measures taken to strengthen national legislation and to give effect to the action plan against the illicit manufacture, trafficking and abuse of amphetamine-type stimulants and their precursors; to eliminate or reduce significantly the illicit manufacture, marketing and trafficking of other psychotropic substances, including synthetic drugs, and the diversion of precursors; and national legislation and programmes to counter money-laundering; and to promote and strengthen judicial cooperation."

55. In table 15.10, under "Indicators of achievement", delete in paragraph (*c*) "(conclusion of agreements and memoranda of understanding)".

56. In table 15.12:

(*a*) Under "Expected accomplishments", in paragraph (*a*), between "meeting" and "goals", insert "by 2003 the";

(*b*) Under "Indicators of achievement":

(i) In paragraph (*a*), add "by 2003" after "society"

(ii) Paragraph (*e*) should read:

> "Number of guides on prevention and treatment issues developed during seminars and workshops and expert group meetings, and actually in use by Member States, to determine what constitutes effective prevention among school-based youth, youth at risk and women, and the design of treatment responses based on needs assessment and evaluation results."

57. In table 15.14, objective 2, under "Expected accomplishments", in paragraph (*a*), add "by 2003" between "to meet" and "the goals".

58. In paragraph 15.35 (*a*) (iv), delete "one ad hoc expert group meeting on international cooperation against drug trafficking at sea; and".

Section 16
Economic and social development in Africa

59. In paragraph 16A.1, the last sentence of the paragraph should read:

> "The main objective of development in Africa is the reduction of poverty, an objective that was reaffirmed in Copenhagen in 1995 at the World Summit for Social Development, which set a target of reducing poverty by half by 2015."

60. In table 16A.9:

(*a*) Under "Expected accomplishments", add the following: "Increased mobilization of financial resources for the development of Africa."

(*b*) Under "Indicators of achievement", add new subparagraphs (iii) and (iv) as follows:

> "(iii) A substantial increase in financial flows to the countries of the region;
>
> "(iv) The number of countries that have adopted investment and trade liberalization policies, including the removal of physical and non-physical barriers."

61. In table 16A.13, at the beginning of paragraph (*b*) under "Indicators of achievement", add the words "An increase in".

62. In table 16A.15:

(*a*) Under "Expected accomplishments", add the following paragraph (*d*):

> "(*d*) Increased Internet connectivity of African countries."

(*b*) Under "Indicators of achievement":

(i) At the end of paragraph (*b*), add the following:

> "Number of countries that, with the support of ECA, have improved their statistical systems, leading to the collection and dissemination of timely and reliable data."

(ii) Add paragraph (*d*) as follows:

> "(*d*) An increase in the number of African Internet hosts and countries with direct connections."

63. In table 16A.17:

(*a*) Under "Expected accomplishments", add the following paragraphs (*c*) and (*d*):

> "(*c*) Increased, effective and harmonized utilization of transboundary water resources.
>
> "(*d*) Substantial implementation of the Framework of Action adopted by the Conference of African Ministers of Transport and Communications."

(*b*) Under "Indicators of achievement", add paragraph (*c*) as follows:

> "(*c*) An increase in positive results of the implementation of the Framework for Action for transport and communications."

Section 19
Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean

64. In table 19.7, under "Indicators of achievement", in paragraph (*a*), delete the phrase "in particular with respect to the ongoing negotiations on a Free Trade Area of the Americas".

65. In table 19.19, under "Expected accomplishments", in paragraph (*b*), delete the phrase "democratic governance".

66. In table 19.21, under "Expected accomplishments", paragraph (*b*) should read:

> "Increased technical capacity to incorporate an environmental dimension into the design of economic policies and the innovative use of economic instruments in environmental management, including a better understanding of the uneven effects of such policies on men and women."

Section 22
Human rights

67. Replace paragraphs 22.1 to 22.8 with paragraphs 19.1 to 19.3 of the medium-term plan for the period 2002–2005, as follows:

> "22.1 The purpose of the United Nations human rights programme is to promote universal enjoyment of all human rights by giving practical effect to the will and resolve of the world community as expressed by the United Nations. Its mandate derives from Articles 1, 13 and 55 of the Charter of the United Nations, the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993 (A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III) and subsequently endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/121 of 20 December 1993, the mandate of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights as defined in Assembly resolution 48/141 of the same date, international human rights instruments adopted by the United Nations and the resolutions and decisions of policy-making bodies. The programme is based on the principles and recommendations of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action.
>
> "22.2 The programme is under the responsibility of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, who performs her or his functions under the direction and authority of the Secretary-General in accordance with

General Assembly resolution 48/141. Its objectives are to provide the leading role on human rights issues and to emphasize the importance of human rights on the international and national agendas; to promote international cooperation for human rights; to stimulate and coordinate action across the whole United Nations system; to promote universal ratification and implementation of international standards and to assist in the development of new norms; to support human rights organs and treaty monitoring bodies; to anticipate serious violations and react to violations; to emphasize preventive human rights action and to promote the establishment of national human rights infrastructures; to undertake human rights field activities and operations; and to provide education, information, advisory services and technical assistance in the field of human rights.

"22.3 By the end of the period covered by the medium-term plan for the period 2002–2005, it is expected that the following will have been accomplished:

"(*a*) A significant enhancement and strengthening of international cooperation in the field of human rights leading to increased effectiveness of international machinery, improved respect for human rights at the national level, through, inter alia, universal ratification of all international human rights treaties, the incorporation of those standards into the domestic legislation of States and the continuing adaptation of the United Nations human rights machinery to current and future needs in the promotion and protection of human rights, as reflected in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;

"(*b*) Major strengthening of coordination for human rights across the United Nations system, leading to a comprehensive and integrated approach to the promotion and protection of human rights based on the contribution of each of the United Nations organs, bodies and specialized agencies whose activities deal with human rights and on improved inter-agency cooperation and coordination;

"(*c*) The adoption and implementation of an integrated and multidimensional strategy for the promotion and protection of the right to development, accompanied by a significant enhancement of support from relevant United Nations bodies for that purpose;

"(*d*) Provision of the appropriate assistance by the Secretariat and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to ensure that the promotion and protection of all human rights are guided by the principles of impartiality, objectivity and non-selectivity, in the spirit of constructive international dialogue and cooperation;

"(*e*) Compliance by the Office of the High Commissioner with the paramount consideration of securing the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity, and with due regard to the importance of recruiting the staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible, bearing in mind that the principle of equitable geographical distribution is compatible with the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity;

"(*f*) A significant increase in the recognition of economic, social and cultural rights and in activities for their protection, including the integration of economic, social and cultural rights as human rights into the strategies and programmes of international organizations, agencies and financial and developmental institutions, the identification of measurements of achievement showing success in respecting those rights and the adoption of a communication procedure relating to non-compliance with economic, social and cultural rights;

"(*g*) The adoption and progressive implementation of an improved treaty monitoring system dealing with multiple reporting obligations and based on a comprehensive national approach;

"(*h*) The implementation of a strengthened system of special procedures based on harmonization and rationalization of work;

"(*i*) The reinforcement of the United Nations as the unique worldwide forum for the discussion and resolution of human rights matters of international concern, with the participation of all relevant actors;

"(*j*) The adoption of more efficient methods within the United Nations to promote and protect human rights, including by preventing human rights violations throughout the world and removing obstacles to the full realization of human rights;

"(*k*) The implementation of a comprehensive United Nations programme to assist States, at their request, in developing and implementing national human rights plans of action strengthening, inter alia, national structures having an impact on democracy and the rule of law; to establish national institutions to give effect to the right to development and economic, social and cultural rights; and also to assist States, at their request, within the respective mandates of the Secretariat and the Office of the High Commissioner, in the process of ratifying United Nations human rights instruments;

"(*l*) Fulfilment of the mandates given to the Secretariat for giving appropriate assistance, according to the resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights, to treaty bodies, intergovernmental and expert bodies, as well as the existing relevant voluntary trust funds;

"(*m*) The full integration of the human rights of women and the girl child into the activities of the United Nations system as a whole and its human rights machinery in particular;

"(*n*) The implementation of effective measures to promote equality, dignity and tolerance, to fight racism and xenophobia, and to protect minorities, indigenous populations, migrant workers, the disabled and others, taking into account also the outcome of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, to be held in 2001;

"(*o*) The establishment of effective programmes of education and public information and the strengthened contribution of non-governmental organizations, national institutions, grass-roots organizations and civil society in United Nations human rights activities at all levels, according to the legislative mandates in effect regarding those issues;

"(*p*) The provision to States, United Nations bodies, experts and the academic community of high-quality research and analysis on human rights issues, including that dealing with emerging problems and the development of new standards and instruments."

and renumber the subsequent paragraphs accordingly.

68. In former paragraph 22.27, after the words "the Council also decided that", insert the phrase ", once the Permanent Forum had been established and had held its first annual session," and replace the words "that it would" with "to".

69. In table 22.7:

(*a*) Replace the text of Objectives 1 and 2 with paragraphs 19.4 and 19.5 of the medium-term plan, as follows:

"**Objective 1**: The primary objectives of this subprogramme will include the promotion and protection of the right to development. In this regard, the objectives will be to develop an integrated and multidimensional strategy for the implementation, coordination and promotion of the right to development in accordance with the Declaration on the Right to Development (General Assembly resolution 41/128, annex) and subsequent mandates and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, aimed at facilitating action to be taken by relevant bodies of the United Nations system, including treaty bodies, international development and financial institutions and non-governmental organizations, for the implementation of the right to development as an integral part of fundamental human rights, ensuring the realization of the right to development across the human rights programme and by specialized agencies and United Nations treaty bodies; to promote national implementation of the right to development through coordination with State-appointed officials; to identify obstacles at the national and international levels; and to promote awareness about the content and importance of the right to development, including through information and educational activities.

"**Objective 2:** With regard to research and analysis, the objectives will be to strengthen respect for human rights by increasing knowledge, awareness and understanding of human rights issues through data collection, research and analysis. These objectives will be pursued within the framework of the indivisibility, interdependence and interrelatedness of all human rights and will be aimed at facilitating the implementation of standards, the work of treaty bodies, special rapporteurs and other bodies and the preparation of new standards; ensuring the recognition on the national and international levels of economic, social and cultural rights; promoting democracy and strengthening national human rights institutions and procedures for the rule of law; contributing to the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and new forms of discrimination; and strengthening the recognition of the human rights of women and children and the protection of vulnerable groups such as minorities, migrant workers and indigenous people."

(*b*) Under "Expected accomplishments", replace the existing text with paragraph 19.6 of the medium-term plan, as follows:

"Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat would include:

"(*a*) Wider integration and/or inclusion of the promotion and protection of the right to development, in particular across the human rights programme and the relevant programmes of work of the United Nations departments and/or offices and specialized agencies and of major international organizations and forums related to this issue;

"(*b*) Major strengthening of coordination for human rights across the United Nations system, leading to a comprehensive and integrated approach to the promotion and protection of human rights based on the contribution of each of the United Nations organs, bodies and specialized agencies whose activities deal with human rights and also based on improved inter-agency cooperation and coordination;

"(*c*) Strengthened efforts that will contribute to the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

"(*d*) Enhanced awareness, knowledge and understanding of all human rights, including the right to development;

> "(*e*) Wider recognition of the rights of women, children and persons belonging to minorities, migrant workers, indigenous people and persons with disabilities, and strengthening the protection of vulnerable groups."

(*c*) Under "Measurements of achievement", replace the existing text with paragraphs 19.7 and 19.8 of the medium-term plan, as modified below:

> "Measures of achievement are elements used as tools for determining, where possible, the extent to which the objectives and/or have been achieved.
>
> "Measures of achievement of the Secretariat to be applied to each expected accomplishment, as appropriate, would include:
>
> "(*a*) The extent to which the right to development had been included in the work programmes of the departments and offices of the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other relevant intergovernmental organizations, providing compiled examples of concrete steps in that regard;
>
> "(*b*) The extent to which the mandates given to the Secretariat contained in resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights had been fulfilled;
>
> "(*c*) The holding of seminars and workshops organized by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights, or in cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner, and the extent to which they contributed to the fulfilment of the objectives of the subprogramme;
>
> "(*d*) The extent to which the activities of the Office of the High Commissioner contributed to increasing knowledge, awareness and understanding in order to advance the full realization of the right to development, in accordance with the Declaration on the Right to Development;
>
> "(*e*) An increased number of visitors to the web site of the Office of the High Commissioner;
>
> "(*f*) The number of new publications of the Office of the High Commissioner as well as their distribution, and the assessment by users of their quality and usefulness."

70. In table 22.9:

(*a*) Replace the text of the objective with paragraph 19.9 of the medium-term plan, as follows:

> "**Objective:** The objectives are to support the United Nations human rights bodies and organs and to facilitate their deliberations by ensuring and enhancing their effective functioning; to contribute to increasing the knowledge, expanding the awareness and promoting the importance of all international human rights treaties; to improve existing procedures through rationalization and streamlining, and the coordination of the participation of Governments, experts, specialized agencies, other international organizations, national institutions and non-governmental organizations in their work; and to ensure the analytical capacity of human rights treaty bodies for the review of State party reports under international treaties and for the processing of communications."

(*b*) Under "Expected accomplishments", replace the existing text with paragraph 19.10 of the medium-term plan, as follows:

> "Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat would include:
>
> "(*a*) The timely delivery of required and appropriate support to intergovernmental bodies, expert bodies and treaty bodies, inter alia, in order to contribute to reducing the backlog in the consideration by the reviewing mechanisms of the States parties' reports;
>
> "(*b*) The timely delivery of required and appropriate support to intergovernmental bodies, expert bodies and treaty bodies, inter alia, in order to contribute to reducing the backlog in the consideration by the reviewing mechanisms of complaints."

(*c*) Under "Measurements of achievement", replace the existing text with paragraphs 19.11 and 19.12 of the medium-term plan, as modified below:

> "Measures of achievement are elements used as tools for determining, where possible, the extent to which the objectives and/or have been achieved.
>
> "Measures of achievement of the Secretariat to be applied to each expected accomplishment, as appropriate, would include:
>
> "(*a*) The quality and timeliness of services provided by the Office of the High Commissioner;
>
> "(*b*) A reduction in the time lag between the submission of a State party report and its examination by the relevant treaty body;
>
> "(*c*) A reduction in the time lag between the submission of a complaint and its review, as appropriate, by the relevant mechanisms;
>
> "(*d*) The number of reports prepared by the Secretariat in accordance with resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council

> and the Commission on Human Rights, and the extent to which they were presented in a timely manner, in compliance with the six-week rule for the issuance of documentation, for consideration by organs dealing with human rights."

71. In table 22.11:

(*a*) Replace the text of Objective 1 with paragraphs 19.13 to 19.15 of the medium-term plan, as follows:

> "**Objective:** In the area of advisory services and technical cooperation, the objectives are to assist countries, at their request, in developing comprehensive national plans of action to promote and protect human rights and to provide advice and support to specific projects to promote respect for human rights; to develop a comprehensive and coordinated United Nations programme to help States in building and strengthening national structures for human rights promotion and protection; and to raise awareness and promote specialized knowledge about human rights through the organization of training courses, seminars and workshops, and the production of a wide range of educational, training and information material.
>
> "In the area of support to fact-finding bodies, the objectives are to ensure the effective functioning of human rights monitoring mechanisms by assisting special rapporteurs and representatives, experts and working groups mandated by policy-making bodies, including through the preparation of information regarding alleged violations and situations for review and the provision of support for missions and meetings; and to enhance the efficiency of action by policy-making bodies by providing analytical information on human rights situations.
>
> "With respect to field activities, the objective is to ensure the efficiency of field missions and presences through the maintenance of contacts with Governments, appropriate sectors of the United Nations system, international and regional organizations and others by supporting and developing such activities through the development of training programmes and materials for human rights field staff and training in human rights for the appropriate components of other United Nations field operations."

and delete the text of Objectives 2 and 3.

(*b*) Under "Expected accomplishments", replace the existing text with paragraph 19.16 of the medium-term plan, as follows:

> "Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat would include:
>
> "(*a*) Provision of advisory services and technical and financial assistance, at the request of the State concerned and, where appropriate, the regional human rights organizations, with a view to supporting actions and programmes in the field of human rights;
>
> "(*b*) Fulfilment of the mandates given to the Office of the High Commissioner in resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights to support human rights monitoring mechanisms, such as special rapporteurs and representatives and expert and working groups mandated by policy-making bodies;
>
> "(*c*) Enhanced awareness, knowledge and understanding of all human rights, including the right to development."

(*c*) Under "Measurements of achievement", replace the existing text with paragraphs 19.17 and 19.18 of the medium-term plan, as modified below:

> "Measures of achievement are elements used as tools for determining, where possible, the extent to which the objectives and/or have been achieved.
>
> "Measures of achievement of the Secretariat to be applied to each expected accomplishment, as appropriate, would include:
>
> "(*a*) The number of seminars, workshops and training courses held or supported by the Office of the High Commissioner; and the number of persons trained, participants in seminars and workshops and fellowships granted as well as data on their geographical distribution and the extent to which they contributed to the fulfilment of the objectives of the subprogramme;
>
> "(*b*) The number of requests from Member States and, where appropriate, from the regional human rights organizations, received and fulfilled by the Office of the High Commissioner for the provision of advisory services and technical and financial assistance, with a view to supporting actions and programmes in the field of human rights;
>
> "(*c*) The timeliness, significance and relevance of the advisory services and technical cooperation."

Section 23
Protection of and assistance to refugees

72. In paragraph 23.2, after the first sentence, insert the following sentence, based on the last sentence of paragraph 21.1 of the medium-term plan for the period 2002–2005: "The pursuit of permanent solutions to the problems of refugees is at the heart of protection and the principal purpose of this section."

73. In paragraph 23.3, in paragraph (*e*), replace "in these activities, due consideration will be given to the interests both of Member States and of the United Nations" with the following

text from the end of paragraph 21.5 (*f*) of the medium-term plan:

> "in this regard, due consideration should be given to the obligation of United Nations officials, in the conduct of their duties, to observe fully both the laws and regulations of Member States and their duties and responsibilities to the Organization".

74. In table 23.4, under "Indicators of achievement" at the end of paragraph (*e*), add the following phrase, based on paragraph 21.17 (*d*) of the medium-term plan: "; the number of refugees repatriated and resettled".

75. In paragraph 23.11 delete paragraph (*a*),"UNHCR staff are trained as to the need for, and most effective design of, programme initiatives;" and reletter the remaining paragraphs accordingly.

76. In paragraph 23.14, paragraph (*c*) should read: "a sufficient level of extrabudgetary funding is raised to allow for the funding of planned capacity-building projects."

Section 24
Palestine refugees

77. In paragraph 24.14 (*b*), insert the word "some" between "by" and "host" in the first line.

Section 25
Humanitarian assistance

78. In table 25.6:

(*a*) Delete paragraphs (*b*) and (*c*) under "Expected accomplishments";

(*b*) Delete paragraphs (*b*) and (*c*) under "Indicators of achievement";

(*c*) Delete "Increased attention to and respect for an active and visible policy of" in paragraph (*d*) under "Expected accomplishments".

79. In paragraph 25.18:

(*a*) In subparagraph (*b*) (iii), replace the words "human rights and international humanitarian law" with "international humanitarian law and human rights instruments";

(*b*) Subparagraph (*b*) (vi) should read "Paper requested by the Security Council on protection for humanitarian assistance to refugees and others in conflict situations (1);"

(*c*) Subparagraph (*b*) (vii) should read: "Study on the application of the guiding principles of humanitarian assistance to all populations in need, as contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 46/182 (1);"

(*d*) At the end of subparagraph (*b*) (viii), add "in strict conformity with the principles of humanity, neutrality and impartiality and to ensure that they are not working at cross-purposes";

(*e*) Subparagraph (*c*) (iv) should read: "Production of inter-agency training package on enhancing the provision of humanitarian assistance to all populations in need;"

(*f*) Add a new subparagraph after (*c*) (iv), reading:

> "(v) Collaboration with other agencies to support and to promote the efforts of Governments of affected countries upon their request to assist and to protect internally displaced persons;"

(*g*) Delete subparagraph (*c*) (vi) and reletter the subsequent subparagraphs accordingly.

80. In paragraph 25.27, in the second sentence, add "where appropriate" after "Framework".

81. In table 25.10:

(*a*) Under "Expected accomplishments":

(i) Paragraph (*a*) should read: "Increased capacity of developing countries for preparedness in disaster prevention and mitigation."

(ii) Add a new paragraph (*b*), reading: "(*b*) Increased participation by developing countries in disaster reduction-related training and seminars."

(*b*) Under "Indicators of achievement":

(i) Paragraph (*a*) should read: "Increase in the number of developing countries having the technical capacity to deal with disaster prevention and mitigation."

(ii) Add a new paragraph (*b*), reading: "The number of experts from developing countries participating in training seminars on disaster prevention."

(*c*) Reletter former paragraphs (*b*) and (*c*) as (*c*) and (*d*) respectively.

(*d*) Under "Expected accomplishments":

(i) Delete (*d*);

(ii) Add a new paragraph (*e*) reading:

> "(*e*) Better and more effective coordination in the mobilization of international support to contribute to preventive management and rehabilitation related to natural disasters."

(*e*) Under "Indicators of achievement", reletter former paragraph (*d*) as (*e*).

82. At the end of paragraph 25.30 (*c*) (i), add a new item, reading: "n. Update inventory of the resources available to help deal with natural disasters;".

83. In table 25.12:

(*a*) Delete (*a*) under "Expected accomplishments";

(*b*) Delete (*a*) under "Indicators of achievement";

(*c*) Under both headings, reletter paragraphs (*b*) and (*c*) as (*a*) and (*b*) respectively;

(*d*) Under "Expected accomplishments", add a new paragraph (*c*), as follows:

> "(*c*) Increased capacity of developing countries to deal with disaster relief."

(*e*) Under "Indicators of achievement" add a new paragraph (*c*), as follows:

> "(*c*) Increased participation in training seminars on disaster management, improved field and regional cooperation in disaster management and increased donor response to inter-agency appeals."

(*f*) Under "Expected accomplishments", in paragraphs (*a*) and (*d*), after "environmental disasters", add "as well as technological accidents".

84. In table 25.14, under "Expected accomplishments", in paragraph (*b*), after "United Nations", delete the remainder of the paragraph.

Section 27C
Office of Human Resources Management

85. In paragraph 27C.1, at the end of the last sentence, add the following text:

> ", as well as meet the expectations of Member States as set forth in General Assembly resolution 55/258 of 14 June 2001".

86. After paragraph 27C.4, add a new paragraph, reading:

> "27C.5. At its fifty-fifth session, the General Assembly considered the report of the Secretary-General and adopted resolution 55/258. In implementing all the activities under this subprogramme, the Office of Human Resources Management will take fully into account the provisions of resolution 55/258."

and renumber subsequent paragraphs accordingly.

87. In former paragraph 27C.5:

(*a*) In the first line, replace "resolution 53/221" with "resolution 55/258";

(*b*) In the fourth line, insert the word "robust" before the word "monitoring".

88. In former paragraph 27C.6 (*a*), replace "monitoring" with "robust monitoring mechanisms".

89. In former paragraph 27C.12, replace the second sentence with the following text:

> "In accordance with the decisions of the General Assembly contained in its resolution 55/258, the Division will concentrate on the implementation of human resources management reform in the areas of its expertise and will work on improving and enhancing its control and monitoring mechanisms and procedures."

90. In former paragraph 27C.16, at the beginning of the paragraph, insert the following text:

> "In line with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 55/258 and".

91. In former paragraph 27C.20, at the beginning of the paragraph, insert the following text:

> "In line with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 55/258,".

92. In former paragraph 27C.21, at the beginning of the paragraph, insert the following text:

> "In accordance with the decisions of the General Assembly, including resolution 55/258,"

93. In former paragraph 27C.26, the beginning of the paragraph, insert the following text:

> "In line with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 55/258,".

Section 28
Internal oversight

94. In table 28.6, under Objective 1, replace paragraph (*b*) under "Indicators of achievement" with the following: "The number of joint meetings, agreements and assignments with external oversight bodies."

95. In table 28.8:

(*a*) Under "Indicators of achievement":

(i) Merge subparagraphs (*b*) (i) and (ii) to read

> "(*b*) Clear delegation of authority and the existence and effective use of mechanisms to ensure accountability at all levels of the Organization."

(ii) Replace paragraph (*d*) with the following: "The number of joint meetings, agreements and assignments with external oversight bodies."

Annex II

Staffing table for 2002 and 2003

	2002	2003
Professional category and above		
Deputy Secretary-General	1	1
Under-Secretary-General	26	26
Assistant Secretary-General	19	19
D-2	80	80
D-1	244	244
P-5	687	687
P-4/3	2 300	2 300
P-2/1	457	457
Subtotal	**3 814**	**3 814**
General Service category		
Principal level	269	269
Other level	2 653	2 653
Subtotal	**2 922**	**2 922**
Other categories		
Security Services	181	181
Local level	1 632	1 632
Field Service	185	185
Trades and Crafts	185	185
Subtotal	**2 183**	**2 183**
Total	**8 919**	**8 919**

RESOLUTIONS 56/254 A to C

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/736, para. 35)[100]

56/254. Programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003

A

BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE BIENNIUM 2002–2003

The General Assembly

Resolves that for the biennium 2002–2003:

1. Appropriations totalling 2,625,178,700 United States dollars are hereby approved for the following purposes:

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[100] The draft resolutions recommended in the report were introduced by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

Section			*Thousands of United States dollars*
Part I.	*Overall policy-making, direction and coordination*		
	1.	Overall policy-making, direction and coordination	49 365.8
	2.	General Assembly affairs and conference services	449 775.3
		Total, part I	**499 141.1**
Part II.	*Political affairs*		
	3.	Political affairs	155 016.3
	4.	Disarmament	15 432.3
	5.	Peacekeeping operations	73 600.7
	6.	Peaceful uses of outer space	4 044.8
		Total, part II	**248 094.1**
Part III.	*International justice and law*		
	7.	International Court of Justice	23 837.3
	8.	Legal affairs	35 265.8
		Total, part III	**59 103.1**
Part IV.	*International cooperation for development*		
	9.	Economic and social affairs	121 043.4
	9A.	Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries	3 055.6
	10.	Africa: New Agenda for Development	5 932.7
	11A.	Trade and development	84 858.4
	11B.	International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO	18 022.6
	12.	Environment	7 660.2
	13.	Human settlements	11 541.8
	14.	Crime prevention and criminal justice	5 733.8
	15.	International drug control	15 289.1
		Total, part IV	**273 137.6**
Part V.	*Regional cooperation for development*		
	16.	Economic and social development in Africa	80 760.1
	17.	Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific	52 804.5
	18.	Economic development in Europe	40 605.9
	19.	Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean	69 167.4
	20.	Economic and social development in Western Asia	49 095.2
	21.	Regular programme of technical cooperation	42 749.6
		Total, part V	**335 182.7**

Section			*Thousands of United States dollars*
Part VI.	*Human rights and humanitarian affairs*		
	22.	Human rights	44 727.1
	23.	Protection of and assistance to refugees	42 890.4
	24.	Palestine refugees	24 828.4
	25.	Humanitarian assistance	20 011.6
		Total, part VI	**132 457.5**
Part VII.	*Public information*		
	26.	Public information	144 719.2
		Total, part VII	**144 719.2**
Part VIII.	*Common support services*		
	27.	Management and central support services	428 530.5
		Total, part VIII	**428 530.5**
Part IX.	*Internal oversight*		
	28.	Internal oversight	20 296.9
		Total, part IX	**20 296.9**
Part X.	*Jointly financed administrative activities and special expenses*		
	29.	Jointly financed administrative activities	8 436.6
	30.	Special expenses	69 340.5
		Total, part X	**77 777.1**
Part XI.	*Capital expenditures*		
	31.	Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance	45 423.6
		Total, part XI	**45 423.6**
Part XII.	*Staff assessment*		
	32.	Staff assessment	348 250.3
		Total, part XII	**348 250.3**
Part XIII.	*Development Account*		
	33.	Development Account	13 065.0
		Total, part XIII	**13 065.0**
		Total, expenditure sections	**2 625 178.7**

2. The Secretary-General shall be authorized to transfer credits between sections of the budget with the concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

3. The total net provision made under the various sections of the budget for contractual printing shall be administered as a unit under the direction of the United Nations Publications Board;

4. In addition to the appropriations approved under paragraph 1 above, an amount of 125,000 dollars is appropriated for each year of the biennium 2002–2003 from the accumulated income of the Library Endowment Fund for the purchase of books, periodicals, maps and library equipment and for such other expenses of the Library at the Palais des Nations as are in accordance with the objects and provisions of the endowment.

B

INCOME ESTIMATES FOR THE BIENNIUM 2002–2003

The General Assembly

Resolves that for the biennium 2002–2003:

1. Estimates of income other than assessments on Member States totalling 404,295,400 United States dollars are approved as follows:

Income section		*Thousands of United States dollars*
1.	Income from staff assessment	352 537.8
2.	General income	47 283.2
3.	Services to the public	4 474.4
	Total, income sections	**404 295.4**

2. The income from staff assessment shall be credited to the Tax Equalization Fund in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955;

3. Direct expenses of the United Nations Postal Administration, services to visitors, sales of statistical products, catering operations and related services, garage operations, television services and the sale of publications not provided for under the budget appropriations, shall be charged against the income derived from those activities.

C

FINANCING OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE YEAR 2002

The General Assembly

Resolves that for the year 2002:

1. Budget appropriations consisting of 1,312,589,350 United States dollars, being half of the appropriations of 2,625,178,700 dollars approved for the biennium 2002–2003 by the General Assembly under paragraph 1 of resolution A above, shall be financed in accordance with regulations 5.1 and 5.2 of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations, as follows:

(*a*) 25,878,800 dollars, being the net of half of the estimated income other than staff assessment approved for the biennium 2002–2003 under resolution B above;

(*b*) 1,286,710,550 dollars, being the assessment on Member States in accordance with its resolution 55/5 B of 23 December 2000 on the scale of assessments for the year 2002;

2. There shall be set off against the assessment on Member States, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund in the total amount of 176,268,900 dollars, being half of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the biennium 2002–2003 under resolution B above.

RESOLUTION 56/255

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/736, para. 35)[101]

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[101] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

56/255. Special subjects relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003

The General Assembly

I

Request for subvention to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research resulting from the recommendations of the Board of Trustees of the Institute contained in the report of the Director of the Institute[102]

Approves the recommendation of a subvention of 213,000 United States dollars from the regular budget of the United Nations for 2002, on the understanding that no additional appropriation would be required under section 4, Disarmament, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003;[103]

II

Joint Inspection Unit

Approves a gross budget for the Joint Inspection Unit for the biennium 2002–2003 in the amount of 7,546,100 dollars;[104]

III

International Civil Service Commission

Approves a gross budget for the International Civil Service Commission for the biennium 2002–2003 in the amount of 12,813,400 dollars;[104]

IV

Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2001

Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General[105] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions[106] on the revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2001, on the understanding that such appropriations as may be necessary (and not exceeding 1,444,200 dollars) will be requested by the Secretary-General in the context of a consolidated statement of programme budget implications and revised estimates to be submitted to the General Assembly;

V

Administrative expenses of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

Having considered the report of the Standing Committee of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board to the General Assembly and to the member organizations of the Fund,[107] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[108]

1. *Concurs* with the recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on the administrative expenses of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund;

2. *Approves* expenses, chargeable directly to the Fund, totalling 74,322,400 dollars net for the biennium 2002–2003, and a decrease of 3,098,900 dollars net for the biennium 2000–2001;

3. *Authorizes* the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board to supplement voluntary contributions to the Emergency Fund for the biennium 2002–2003 by an amount not exceeding 200,000 dollars;

VI

Contingency fund

Notes that a balance of 2,192,100 dollars remains in the contingency fund;[109]

VII

Special political missions

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the estimates in respect of matters of which the Security Council is seized,[110] and concurs with the observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee contained in its reports;[111]

2. *Approves* the charge of 8 million dollars for the period from 1 January to 31 March 2002 for the 15 missions dealt with in the report of the Secretary-General[112] against the provision for special political missions requested under

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[102] A/56/359, paras. 10–12.

[103] A/56/6 (Sect. 4). For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 6.*

[104] A/56/6 (Sect. 29). For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 6.*

[105] A/C.5/56/4.

[106] A/56/518.

[107] A/56/289.

[108] A/56/7/Add.1. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 7A.*

[109] See A/C.5/56/33.

[110] A/C.5/56/25 and Add.1 and 2.

[111] See A/56/7/Add.5, para. 7, A/56/7/Add.6, para. 11 and A/56/7/Add.7, para. 7. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 7A.*

[112] A/C.5/56/25.

section 3, Political affairs, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003;

3. *Also approves* the charge of 1.7 million dollars for the period from 1 January to 31 March 2002 for the United Nations Office in Burundi[113] against the provision for special political missions requested under section 3, Political affairs, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003;

4. *Further approves* the charge of 1,413,400 dollars for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2002 for the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Cyprus against the provision for special political missions requested under section 3, Political affairs, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003;

5. *Decides* to resume its consideration of the reports of the Secretary-General on the estimates in respect of which the Security Council is seized[110] in March 2002;

6. *Notes* that an unallocated balance of 64,648,400 dollars remains against the provision of 98,338,700 dollars for special political missions;[114]

VIII

Safety and security of United Nations personnel

Recalling section II of its resolution 55/238 of 23 December 2000,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Inter-organizational security measures: implementation of section II, Safety and security of United Nations personnel, of General Assembly resolution 55/238 of 23 December 2000,"[115] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[116]

1. *Endorses* the recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;[116]

2. *Welcomes* the agreed inter-agency cost-sharing arrangement, and requests that the apportionment of expenses be updated in 2003;

3. *Notes with concern* the lack of an accountability and responsibility mechanism in the area of field security, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a comprehensive report on the establishment of a clear mechanism of accountability and responsibility, including such provisions as its scope, depth and common standards and methods of enforcing them in an inter-agency structure;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to conduct an evaluation of the United Nations security system, including the new security arrangements and the relationship and interaction between the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat and the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator, and to report his findings and recommendations to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

IX

International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO

Having considered section 11B, International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003,[117] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[118]

Decides to approve the resources in the amount of 18,022,600 dollars proposed for the biennium 2002–2003 under section 11B;

X

Effect of changes in rates of exchange and inflation

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the revised estimates of the effect of changes in rates of exchange and inflation[119] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[120]

Takes note of the revised estimates arising from the recosting of the effects of changes in the rates of exchange and inflation;

XI

Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects

Having considered the statement of the Secretary-General on the comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects[121] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[122]

Decides to appropriate an additional amount of 1,575,700 dollars under the following sections of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003: 376,400 dollars under section 3, Political affairs; 888,800 dollars under section 22, Human rights; 127,900 dollars under section 27, Management and central support services; and 182,600 dollars under section 32, Staff assessment, to be offset by a corresponding amount (182,600 dollars) under income section 1, Income from staff assessment, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003.

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[113] See A/C.5/56/25/Add.1.

[114] See A/C.5/56/32.

[115] A/56/469 and Corr.1 and 2.

[116] A/56/619.

[117] A/56/6 and Add.1 (Sect. 11B). For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No 6*.

[118] A/56/7/Add.3. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 7A*.

[119] A/56/659.

[120] A/56/7/Add.4. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 7A*.

[121] A/C.5/55/46 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

[122] A/56/478.

RESOLUTION 56/256

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/736, para. 35)[123]

56/256. Unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the biennium 2002–2003

The General Assembly

1. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General, with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and subject to the Financial Regulations of the United Nations and the provisions of paragraph 3 below, to enter into commitments in the biennium 2002–2003 to meet unforeseen and extraordinary expenses arising either during or subsequent to the biennium, provided that the concurrence of the Advisory Committee shall not be necessary for:

(*a*) Such commitments, not exceeding a total of 8 million United States dollars in any one year of the biennium 2002–2003, as the Secretary-General certifies relate to the maintenance of peace and security;

(*b*) Such commitments as the President of the International Court of Justice certifies relate to expenses occasioned by:

(i) The designation of ad hoc judges (Statute of the International Court of Justice, Article 31), not exceeding a total of 330,000 dollars;

(ii) The calling of witnesses and the appointment of experts (Statute, Article 50) and the appointment of assessors (Statute, Article 30), not exceeding a total of 50,000 dollars;

(iii) The maintenance in office for the completion of cases of judges who have not been re-elected (Statute, Article 13, paragraph 3), not exceeding a total of 40,000 dollars;

(iv) The payment of pensions and travel and removal expenses of retiring judges, and travel and removal expenses and installation grant of members of the Court (Statute, Article 32, paragraph 7), not exceeding a total of 410,000 dollars;

(v) The work of the Court or its Chambers away from The Hague (Statute, Article 22), not exceeding a total of 25,000 dollars;

(*c*) Such commitments, not exceeding a total of 500,000 dollars in the biennium 2002–2003, as the Secretary-General certifies are required for inter-organizational security measures pursuant to section IV of General Assembly resolution 36/235 of 18 December 1981;

2. *Resolves* that the Secretary-General shall report to the Advisory Committee and to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh and fifty-eighth sessions all commitments made under the provisions of the present resolution, together with the circumstances relating thereto, and shall submit supplementary estimates to the Assembly in respect of such commitments;

3. *Decides* that for the biennium 2002–2003, if a decision of the Security Council results in the need for the Secretary-General to enter into commitments relating to the maintenance of peace and security in an amount exceeding 10 million dollars in respect of the decision, that matter shall be brought to the General Assembly, or, if the General Assembly is suspended or not in session, a resumed or special session of the Assembly shall be convened by the Secretary-General to consider the matter.

RESOLUTION 56/257

Adopted at the 92nd plenary meeting, on 24 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/736, para. 35)[124]

56/257. Working Capital Fund for the biennium 2002–2003

The General Assembly

Resolves that:

1. The Working Capital Fund shall be established for the biennium 2002–2003 in the amount of 100 million United States dollars;

2. Member States shall make advances to the Working Capital Fund in accordance with the scale adopted by the General Assembly for contributions of Member States to the budget for the year 2002;

3. There shall be set off against this allocation of advances:

(*a*) Credits to Member States resulting from transfers made in 1959 and 1960 from the surplus account to the

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[123] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

[124] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

Working Capital Fund in an adjusted amount of 1,025,092 dollars;

(*b*) Cash advances paid by Member States to the Working Capital Fund for the biennium 2000–2001 in accordance with General Assembly resolution 54/253 of 23 December 1999;

4. Should the credits and advances paid by any Member State to the Working Capital Fund for the biennium 2000–2001 exceed the amount of that Member State's advance under the provisions of paragraph 2 above, the excess shall be set off against the amount of the contributions payable by the Member State in respect of the biennium 2002–2003;

5. The Secretary-General is authorized to advance from the Working Capital Fund:

(*a*) Such sums as may be necessary to finance budgetary appropriations pending the receipt of contributions; sums so advanced shall be reimbursed as soon as receipts from contributions are available for that purpose;

(*b*) Such sums as may be necessary to finance commitments that may be duly authorized under the provisions of the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, in particular resolution 56/256 of 24 December 2001 relating to unforeseen and extraordinary expenses; the Secretary-General shall make provision in the budget estimates for reimbursing the Working Capital Fund;

(*c*) Such sums as may be necessary to continue the revolving fund to finance miscellaneous self-liquidating purchases and activities, which, together with net sums outstanding for the same purpose, do not exceed 200,000 dollars; advances in excess of the total of 200,000 dollars may be made with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

(*d*) With the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee, such sums as may be required to finance payments of advance insurance premiums where the period of insurance extends beyond the end of the biennium in which payment is made; the Secretary-General shall make provision in the budget estimates of each biennium, during the life of the related policies, to cover the charges applicable to each biennium;

(*e*) Such sums as may be necessary to enable the Tax Equalization Fund to meet current commitments pending the accumulation of credits; such advances shall be repaid as soon as credits are available in the Tax Equalization Fund;

6. Should the provision in paragraph 1 above prove inadequate to meet the purposes normally related to the Working Capital Fund, the Secretary-General is authorized to utilize, in the biennium 2002–2003, cash from special funds and accounts in his custody, under the conditions approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 1341 (XIII) of 13 December 1958, or the proceeds of loans authorized by the Assembly.

VII. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Sixth Committee

Contents

Resolution No.	*Title*	*Page*
56/77.	United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law	478
56/78.	Convention on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property	479
56/79.	Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its thirty-fourth session	480
56/80.	Model Law on Electronic Signatures of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law	482
56/81.	United Nations Convention on the Assignment of Receivables in International Trade	485
56/82.	Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-third session	498
56/83.	Responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts	499
56/84.	Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country	506
56/85.	Establishment of the International Criminal Court	507
56/86.	Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization	509
56/87.	Implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions	510
56/88.	Measures to eliminate international terrorism	513
56/89.	Scope of legal protection under the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel	516
56/90.	Observer status for the International Development Law Institute in the General Assembly	517
56/91.	Observer status for the International Hydrographic Organization in the General Assembly	517
56/92.	Observer status for the Com[illegible]ty of Sahelo-Saharan States in the General Assembly	517
56/93.	International convention against the reproductive cloning of human beings	518

RESOLUTION 56/77

Adopted at the 85th plenary meeting, on 12 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/586, para. 7)[1]

56/77. United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law

The General Assembly,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law[2] and the guidelines and recommendations on future implementation of the Programme which were adopted by the Advisory Committee on the Programme and are contained in section III of the report,

Considering that international law should occupy an appropriate place in the teaching of legal disciplines at all universities,

Noting with appreciation the efforts made by States at the bilateral level to provide assistance in the teaching and study of international law,

Convinced, nevertheless, that States and international organizations and institutions should be encouraged to give further support to the Programme and increase their activities to promote the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law, in particular those activities which are of special benefit to persons from developing countries,

Reaffirming its resolutions 2464 (XXIII) of 20 December 1968, 2550 (XXIV) of 12 December 1969, 2838 (XXVI) of 18 December 1971, 3106 (XXVIII) of 12 December 1973, 3502 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, 32/146 of 16 December 1977, 36/108 of 10 December 1981 and 38/129 of 19 December 1983, in which it stated or recalled that in the conduct of the Programme it was desirable to use as far as possible the resources and facilities made available by Member States, international organizations and others, as well as its resolutions 34/144 of 17 December 1979, 40/66 of 11 December 1985, 42/148 of 7 December 1987, 44/28 of 4 December 1989, 46/50 of 9 December 1991 and 48/29 of 9 December 1993, in which, in addition, it expressed or reaffirmed the hope that, in appointing lecturers for the seminars to be held within the framework of the fellowship programme in international law, account would be taken of the need to secure the representation of major legal systems and balance among various geographical regions,

Welcoming the establishment of the United Nations Audiovisual Library in International Law,

1. *Approves* the guidelines and recommendations contained in section III of the report of the Secretary-General[2] and adopted by the Advisory Committee on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law, in particular those designed to achieve the best possible results in the administration of the Programme within a policy of maximum financial restraint;

2. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to carry out in 2002 and 2003 the activities specified in his report, including the provision of:

(*a*) A number of international law fellowships in both 2002 and 2003, to be determined in the light of the overall resources for the Programme and to be awarded at the request of Governments of developing countries;

(*b*) A minimum of one scholarship in both 2002 and 2003 under the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea, subject to the availability of new voluntary contributions made specifically to the fellowship fund;

(*c*) Subject to the overall resources for the Programme, assistance in the form of a travel grant for one participant from each developing country, who would be invited to possible regional courses to be organized in 2002 and 2003;

and to finance the above activities from provisions in the regular budget, when appropriate, as well as from voluntary financial contributions earmarked for each of the activities concerned, which would be received as a result of the requests set out in paragraphs 12 to 14 below;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his constructive efforts to promote training and assistance in international law within the framework of the Programme in 2000 and 2001, in particular for the organization of the thirty-sixth[3] and thirty-seventh[4] sessions of the International Law Seminar, held at Geneva in 2000 and 2001, respectively, and for the activities of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat related to the fellowship programme in international law and to the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea, carried out, respectively, through its Codification Division and its Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider the possibility of admitting, for participation in the various

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the representative of Ghana.

[2] A/56/484.

[3] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/55/10), chap. IX, sect. E.

[4] Ibid., *Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 10* and corrigendum (A/56/10 and Corr. 1), chap. IX, sect. E.

components of the Programme, candidates from countries willing to bear the entire cost of such participation;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to consider the relative advantages of using available resources and voluntary contributions for regional, subregional or national courses, as against courses organized within the United Nations system;

6. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the necessary resources to the programme budget for the Programme for the next and the future bienniums with a view to maintaining the effectiveness of the Programme;

7. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by the Office of Legal Affairs to bring up to date the United Nations *Treaty Series* and the *United Nations Juridical Yearbook*, as well as efforts made to place on the Internet the *Treaty Series* and other legal information;

8. *Expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations Institute for Training and Research for its participation in the Programme through the activities described in the report of the Secretary-General;

9. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for its participation in the Programme through the activities described in the report of the Secretary-General;

10. *Further expresses its appreciation* to The Hague Academy of International Law for the valuable contribution it continues to make to the Programme, which has enabled candidates under the fellowship programmes in international law to attend and participate in the Programme in conjunction with the Academy courses;

11. *Notes with appreciation* the contributions of The Hague Academy to the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law, and calls upon Member States and interested organizations to give favourable consideration to the appeal of the Academy for a continuation of support and a possible increase in their financial contributions, to enable the Academy to carry out its activities, particularly those relating to the summer courses, regional courses and programmes of the Centre for Studies and Research in International Law and International Relations;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to publicize the Programme and periodically to invite Member States, universities, philanthropic foundations and other interested national and international institutions and organizations, as well as individuals, to make voluntary contributions towards the financing of the Programme or otherwise to assist in its implementation and possible expansion;

13. *Reiterates its request* to Member States and to interested organizations and individuals to make voluntary contributions, inter alia, for the International Law Seminar, the fellowship programme in international law, the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea and the United Nations Audiovisual Library in International Law, and expresses its appreciation to those Member States, institutions and individuals which have made voluntary contributions for this purpose;

14. *Urges* in particular all Governments to make voluntary contributions for the organization of regional refresher courses in international law by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, especially with a view to covering the amount needed for the financing of the daily subsistence allowance for up to twenty-five participants in each regional course, thus alleviating the burden on prospective host countries and making it possible for the Institute to continue to organize the regional courses;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the Programme during 2002 and 2003 and, following consultations with the Advisory Committee on the Programme, to submit recommendations regarding the execution of the Programme in subsequent years;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law".

RESOLUTION 56/78

Adopted at the 85th plenary meeting, on 12 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/587 and Corr.1, para. 7)[5]

56/78. Convention on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/150 of 12 December 2000, wherein it was decided to establish an Ad Hoc Committee on Jurisdictional Immunities of States and Their Property, open also to participation by States members of the specialized agencies, to further the work done, consolidate areas of agreement and resolve outstanding issues with a view to elaborating a generally acceptable instrument based on the draft articles on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property adopted by the International Law Commission at its forty-third session,[6] and also on the discussions of the open-ended working group of the Sixth Committee and their results,[7]

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[5] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[6] *Yearbook of the International Law Commission, 1991*, vol. II, Part Two (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.V.9 (Part 2)), document A/46/10, chap. II, para. 28.

1. *Decides* that the Ad Hoc Committee on Jurisdictional Immunities of States and Their Property shall meet from 4 to 15 February 2002;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make available to the Ad Hoc Committee the comments submitted by States in accordance with General Assembly resolution 49/61 of 9 December 1994 and on the reports of the open-ended working group of the Sixth Committee established under Assembly resolutions 53/98 of 8 December 1998 and 54/101 of 9 December 1999;[7]

3. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Committee to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the outcome of its work;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Convention on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property".

RESOLUTION 56/79

Adopted at the 85th plenary meeting, on 12 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/588 and Corr.1, para. 15)[8]

56/79. Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its thirty-fourth session

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2205 (XXI) of 17 December 1966, by which it established the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law with a mandate to further the progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade and in that respect to bear in mind the interests of all peoples, in particular those of developing countries, in the extensive development of international trade,

Reaffirming its conviction that the progressive harmonization and unification of international trade law, in reducing or removing legal obstacles to the flow of international trade, especially those affecting the developing countries, would contribute significantly to universal economic cooperation among all States on a basis of equality, equity and common interest and to the elimination of discrimination in international trade and, thereby, to the well-being of all peoples,

Emphasizing the need for higher priority to be given to the work of the Commission in view of the increasing value of the modernization of international trade law for global economic development and thus for the maintenance of friendly relations among States,

Stressing the value of the participation by States at all levels of economic development and from different legal systems in the process of harmonizing and unifying international trade law,

Having considered the report of the Commission on the work of its thirty-fourth session,[9]

Concerned that activities undertaken by other bodies of the United Nations system in the field of international trade law without coordination with the Commission might lead to undesirable duplication of efforts and would not be in keeping with the aim of promoting efficiency, consistency and coherence in the unification and harmonization of international trade law, as stated in its resolution 37/106 of 16 December 1982,

Stressing the importance of the further development of case law on United Nations Commission on International Trade Law texts in promoting the uniform application of the legal texts of the Commission and its value for government officials, practitioners and academics,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its thirty-fourth session;[9]

2. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the completion and adoption by the Commission of the draft Convention on the Assignment of Receivables in International Trade[10] and of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law Model Law on Electronic Signatures;[11]

3. *Takes note* of the progress made in the work of the Commission on arbitration and insolvency law and of its

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[7] See A/C.6/54/L.12 and A/C.6/55/L.12; see also *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Sixth Committee*, 30th meeting (A/C.6/54/SR.30), and corrigendum; and ibid., *Fifty-fifth Session, Sixth Committee*, 30th and 31st meetings (A/C.6/55/SR.30 and 31), and corrigendum.

[8] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Hungary, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela and Yugoslavia.

[9] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 17* and corrigendum (A/56/17 and Corr.3).

[10] Ibid., annex I.

[11] Ibid., annex II.

decision to commence work on electronic contracting, privately financed infrastructure projects, security interests and transport law, and expresses its appreciation to the Commission for its decision to adjust its working methods in order to accommodate its increased workload without endangering the high quality of its work;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to the secretariat of the Commission for the publication and distribution of the *Legislative Guide on Privately Financed Infrastructure Projects*,[12] calls upon the secretariat to ensure, in a joint effort with intergovernmental organizations such as the regional commissions of the United Nations, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, organizations of the World Bank Group and regional development banks, wide dissemination of the *Legislative Guide*, and invites States to give favourable consideration to its provisions when revising or adopting legislation in that area;

5. *Appeals* to Governments that have not yet done so to reply to the questionnaire circulated by the Secretariat in relation to the legal regime governing the recognition and enforcement of foreign arbitral awards and, in particular, to the legislative implementation of the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards, done at New York on 10 June 1958;[13]

6. *Invites* States to nominate persons to work with the private foundation established to encourage assistance to the Commission from the private sector;

7. *Reaffirms* the mandate of the Commission, as the core legal body within the United Nations system in the field of international trade law, to coordinate legal activities in this field and, in this connection:

(*a*) Calls upon all bodies of the United Nations system and invites other international organizations to bear in mind the mandate of the Commission and the need to avoid duplication of effort and to promote efficiency, consistency and coherence in the unification and harmonization of international trade law;

(*b*) Recommends that the Commission, through its secretariat, continue to maintain close cooperation with the other international organs and organizations, including regional organizations, active in the field of international trade law;

8. *Also reaffirms* the importance, in particular for developing countries, of the work of the Commission concerned with training and technical assistance in the field of international trade law, such as assistance in the preparation of national legislation based on legal texts of the Commission;

9. *Expresses the desirability* of increased efforts by the Commission, in sponsoring seminars and symposia, to provide such training and technical assistance, and in this connection:

(*a*) Expresses its appreciation to the Commission for organizing seminars and briefing missions in Belarus, Burkina Faso, China, Colombia, Croatia, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Egypt, Kenya, Lithuania, Peru, the Republic of Korea, Tunisia, Ukraine and Uzbekistan;

(*b*) Expresses its appreciation to the Governments whose contributions enabled the seminars and briefing missions to take place, and appeals to Governments, the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, organizations, institutions and individuals to make voluntary contributions to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law Trust Fund for Symposia and, where appropriate, to the financing of special projects, and otherwise to assist the secretariat of the Commission in financing and organizing seminars and symposia, in particular in developing countries, and in the award of fellowships to candidates from developing countries to enable them to participate in such seminars and symposia;

10. *Appeals* to the United Nations Development Programme and other bodies responsible for development assistance, such as the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, as well as to Governments in their bilateral aid programmes, to support the training and technical assistance programme of the Commission and to cooperate and coordinate their activities with those of the Commission;

11. *Appeals* to Governments, the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, organizations, institutions and individuals, in order to ensure full participation by all Member States in the sessions of the Commission and its working groups, to make voluntary contributions to the trust fund established to provide travel assistance to developing countries that are members of the Commission, at their request and in consultation with the Secretary-General;

12. *Decides*, in order to ensure full participation by all Member States in the sessions of the Commission and its working groups, to continue, in the competent Main Committee during the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, its consideration of granting travel assistance to the least developed countries that are members of the Commission, at their request and in consultation with the Secretary-General;

13. *Reiterates*, in view of the increased work programme of the Commission, its request to the Secretary-General to strengthen the secretariat of the Commission within the bounds of the resources available in the Organization so as to ensure and enhance the effective implementation of the programme of the Commission;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to adjust the terms of reference of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law Trust Fund for Symposia so as to make it possible for

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[12] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.01.V.4.

[13] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 330, No. 4739.

the resources in the Trust Fund to be used also for the financing of training and technical assistance activities undertaken by the Secretariat;

15. *Stresses* the importance of bringing into effect the conventions emanating from the work of the Commission for the global unification and harmonization of international trade law, and to this end urges States that have not yet done so to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to those conventions.

RESOLUTION 56/80

Adopted at the 85th plenary meeting, on 12 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/588 and Corr.1, para. 15)[14]

56/80. Model Law on Electronic Signatures of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2205 (XXI) of 17 December 1966, by which it established the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, with a mandate to further the progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade and in that respect to bear in mind the interests of all peoples, particularly those of developing countries, in the extensive development of international trade,

Noting that an increasing number of transactions in international trade are carried out by means of communication commonly referred to as electronic commerce, which involves the use of alternatives to paper-based forms of communication, storage and authentication of information,

Recalling the recommendation on the legal value of computer records adopted by the Commission at its eighteenth session, in 1985, and paragraph 5 (*b*) of General Assembly resolution 40/71 of 11 December 1985, in which the Assembly called upon Governments and international organizations to take action, where appropriate, in conformity with the recommendation of the Commission,[15] so as to ensure legal security in the context of the widest possible use of automated data processing in international trade,

Recalling also that the Model Law on Electronic Commerce was adopted by the Commission at its twenty-ninth session, in 1996,[16] and complemented by an additional article, 5 bis, adopted by the Commission at its thirty-first session, in 1998,[17] and recalling paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 51/162 of 16 December 1996, in which the Assembly recommended that all States should give favourable consideration to the Model Law when enacting or revising their laws, in view of the need for uniformity of the law applicable to alternatives to paper-based methods of communication and storage of information,

Convinced that the Model Law on Electronic Commerce is of significant assistance to States in enabling or facilitating the use of electronic commerce, as demonstrated by the enactment of the Model Law in a number of countries and its universal recognition as an essential reference in the field of electronic commerce legislation,

Mindful of the great utility of new technologies used for personal identification in electronic commerce and commonly referred to as electronic signatures,

Desiring to build on the fundamental principles underlying article 7 of the Model Law on Electronic Commerce[18] with respect to the fulfilment of the signature function in an electronic environment, with a view to promoting reliance on electronic signatures for producing legal effect where such electronic signatures are functionally equivalent to handwritten signatures,

Convinced that legal certainty in electronic commerce will be enhanced by the harmonization of certain rules on the legal recognition of electronic signatures on a technologically neutral basis and by the establishment of a method to assess in a technologically neutral manner the practical reliability and the commercial adequacy of electronic signature techniques,

Believing that the Model Law on Electronic Signatures will constitute a useful addition to the Model Law on Electronic Commerce and significantly assist States in enhancing their legislation governing the use of modern authentication techniques and in formulating such legislation where none currently exists,

Being of the opinion that the establishment of model legislation to facilitate the use of electronic signatures in a manner acceptable to States with different legal, social and economic systems could contribute to the development of harmonious international economic relations,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law for completing and adopting the Model Law on Electronic Signatures contained in the annex to the present resolution, and for preparing the Guide to Enactment of the Model Law;

2. *Recommends* that all States give favourable consideration to the Model Law on Electronic Signatures, together with the Model Law on Electronic Commerce adopted in 1996 and complemented in 1998, when they enact or revise their laws, in view of the need for uniformity of the law

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[14] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[15] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fortieth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/40/17), chap. VI, sect. B.

[16] Ibid., *Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/51/17), chap. III, sect. F, para. 209.

[17] Ibid., *Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/53/17), chap. III, sect. B.

[18] Resolution 51/162, annex.

applicable to alternatives to paper-based forms of communication, storage and authentication of information;

3. *Recommends also* that all efforts be made to ensure that the Model Law on Electronic Commerce and the Model Law on Electronic Signatures, together with their respective Guides to Enactment, become generally known and available.

Annex

Model Law on Electronic Signatures of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law

Article 1
Sphere of application

This Law applies where electronic signatures are used in the context[19] of commercial[20] activities. It does not override any rule of law intended for the protection of consumers.

Article 2
Definitions

For the purposes of this Law:

(*a*) "Electronic signature" means data in electronic form in, affixed to or logically associated with, a data message, which may be used to identify the signatory in relation to the data message and to indicate the signatory's approval of the information contained in the data message;

(*b*) "Certificate" means a data message or other record confirming the link between a signatory and signature creation data;

(*c*) "Data message" means information generated, sent, received or stored by electronic, optical or similar means including, but not limited to, electronic data interchange (EDI), electronic mail, telegram, telex or telecopy;

(*d*) "Signatory" means a person that holds signature creation data and acts either on its own behalf or on behalf of the person it represents;

(*e*) "Certification service provider" means a person that issues certificates and may provide other services related to electronic signatures;

(*f*) "Relying party" means a person that may act on the basis of a certificate or an electronic signature.

Article 3
Equal treatment of signature technologies

Nothing in this Law, except article 5, shall be applied so as to exclude, restrict or deprive of legal effect any method of creating an electronic signature that satisfies the requirements referred to in article 6, paragraph 1, or otherwise meets the requirements of applicable law.

Article 4
Interpretation

1. In the interpretation of this Law, regard is to be had to its international origin and to the need to promote uniformity in its application and the observance of good faith.

2. Questions concerning matters governed by this Law which are not expressly settled in it are to be settled in conformity with the general principles on which this Law is based.

Article 5
Variation by agreement

The provisions of this Law may be derogated from or their effect may be varied by agreement, unless that agreement would not be valid or effective under applicable law.

Article 6
Compliance with a requirement for a signature

1. Where the law requires a signature of a person, that requirement is met in relation to a data message if an electronic signature is used that is as reliable as was appropriate for the purpose for which the data message was generated or communicated, in the light of all the circumstances, including any relevant agreement.

2. Paragraph 1 applies whether the requirement referred to therein is in the form of an obligation or whether the law simply provides consequences for the absence of a signature.

3. An electronic signature is considered to be reliable for the purpose of satisfying the requirement referred to in paragraph 1 if:

(*a*) The signature creation data are, within the context in which they are used, linked to the signatory and to no other person;

(*b*) The signature creation data were, at the time of signing, under the control of the signatory and of no other person;

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[19] The Commission suggests the following text for States that might wish to extend the applicability of this Law:

"This Law applies where electronic signatures are used, except in the following situations: [...]."

[20] The term "commercial" should be given a wide interpretation so as to cover matters arising from all relationships of a commercial nature, whether contractual or not. Relationships of a commercial nature include, but are not limited to, the following transactions: any trade transaction for the supply or exchange of goods or services; distribution agreement; commercial representation or agency; factoring; leasing; construction of works; consulting; engineering; licensing; investment; financing; banking; insurance; exploitation agreement or concession; joint venture and other forms of industrial or business cooperation; carriage of goods or passengers by air, sea, rail or road.

(*c*) Any alteration to the electronic signature, made after the time of signing, is detectable; and

(*d*) Where a purpose of the legal requirement for a signature is to provide assurance as to the integrity of the information to which it relates, any alteration made to that information after the time of signing is detectable.

4. Paragraph 3 does not limit the ability of any person:

(*a*) To establish in any other way, for the purpose of satisfying the requirement referred to in paragraph 1, the reliability of an electronic signature; or

(*b*) To adduce evidence of the non-reliability of an electronic signature.

5. The provisions of this article do not apply to the following: [...].

Article 7
Satisfaction of article 6

1. [*Any person, organ or authority, whether public or private, specified by the enacting State as competent*] may determine which electronic signatures satisfy the provisions of article 6 of this Law.

2. Any determination made under paragraph 1 shall be consistent with recognized international standards.

3. Nothing in this article affects the operation of the rules of private international law.

Article 8
Conduct of the signatory

1. Where signature creation data can be used to create a signature that has legal effect, each signatory shall:

(*a*) Exercise reasonable care to avoid unauthorized use of its signature creation data;

(*b*) Without undue delay, utilize means made available by the certification service provider pursuant to article 9 of this Law, or otherwise use reasonable efforts, to notify any person that may reasonably be expected by the signatory to rely on or to provide services in support of the electronic signature if:

(i) The signatory knows that the signature creation data have been compromised; or

(ii) The circumstances known to the signatory give rise to a substantial risk that the signature creation data may have been compromised;

(*c*) Where a certificate is used to support the electronic signature, exercise reasonable care to ensure the accuracy and completeness of all material representations made by the signatory that are relevant to the certificate throughout its life cycle or that are to be included in the certificate.

2. A signatory shall bear the legal consequences of its failure to satisfy the requirements of paragraph 1.

Article 9
Conduct of the certification service provider

1. Where a certification service provider provides services to support an electronic signature that may be used for legal effect as a signature, that certification service provider shall:

(*a*) Act in accordance with representations made by it with respect to its policies and practices;

(*b*) Exercise reasonable care to ensure the accuracy and completeness of all material representations made by it that are relevant to the certificate throughout its life cycle or that are included in the certificate;

(*c*) Provide reasonably accessible means that enable a relying party to ascertain from the certificate:

(i) The identity of the certification service provider;

(ii) That the signatory that is identified in the certificate had control of the signature creation data at the time when the certificate was issued;

(iii) That signature creation data were valid at or before the time when the certificate was issued;

(*d*) Provide reasonably accessible means that enable a relying party to ascertain, where relevant, from the certificate or otherwise:

(i) The method used to identify the signatory;

(ii) Any limitation on the purpose or value for which the signature creation data or the certificate may be used;

(iii) That the signature creation data are valid and have not been compromised;

(iv) Any limitation on the scope or extent of liability stipulated by the certification service provider;

(v) Whether means exist for the signatory to give notice pursuant to article 8, paragraph 1 (*b*), of this Law;

(vi) Whether a timely revocation service is offered;

(*e*) Where services under subparagraph (*d*) (v) are offered, provide a means for a signatory to give notice pursuant to article 8, paragraph 1 (*b*), of this Law and, where services under subparagraph (*d*) (vi) are offered, ensure the availability of a timely revocation service;

(*f*) Utilize trustworthy systems, procedures and human resources in performing its services.

2. A certification service provider shall bear the legal consequences of its failure to satisfy the requirements of paragraph 1.

Article 10
Trustworthiness

For the purposes of article 9, paragraph 1 (*f*), of this Law in determining whether, or to what extent, any systems, procedures and human resources utilized by a certification service provider are trustworthy, regard may be had to the following factors:

(*a*) Financial and human resources, including existence of assets;

(*b*) Quality of hardware and software systems;

(*c*) Procedures for processing of certificates and applications for certificates and retention of records;

(*d*) Availability of information to signatories identified in certificates and to potential relying parties;

(*e*) Regularity and extent of audit by an independent body;

(*f*) The existence of a declaration by the State, an accreditation body or the certification service provider regarding compliance with or existence of the foregoing; or

(*g*) Any other relevant factor.

Article 11
Conduct of the relying party

A relying party shall bear the legal consequences of its failure:

(*a*) To take reasonable steps to verify the reliability of an electronic signature; or

(*b*) Where an electronic signature is supported by a certificate, to take reasonable steps:

(i) To verify the validity, suspension or revocation of the certificate; and

(ii) To observe any limitation with respect to the certificate.

Article 12
Recognition of foreign certificates and electronic signatures

1. In determining whether, or to what extent, a certificate or an electronic signature is legally effective, no regard shall be had:

(*a*) To the geographic location where the certificate is issued or the electronic signature created or used; or

(*b*) To the geographic location of the place of business of the issuer or signatory.

2. A certificate issued outside [*the enacting State*] shall have the same legal effect in [*the enacting State*] as a certificate issued in [*the enacting State*] if it offers a substantially equivalent level of reliability.

3. An electronic signature created or used outside [*the enacting State*] shall have the same legal effect in [*the enacting State*] as an electronic signature created or used in [*the enacting State*] if it offers a substantially equivalent level of reliability.

4. In determining whether a certificate or an electronic signature offers a substantially equivalent level of reliability for the purposes of paragraph 2 or 3, regard shall be had to recognized international standards and to any other relevant factors.

5. Where, notwithstanding paragraphs 2, 3 and 4, parties agree, as between themselves, to the use of certain types of electronic signatures or certificates, that agreement shall be recognized as sufficient for the purposes of cross-border recognition, unless that agreement would not be valid or effective under applicable law.

RESOLUTION 56/81

Adopted at the 85th plenary meeting, on 12 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/588 and Corr.1, para. 15)[21]

56/81. United Nations Convention on the Assignment of Receivables in International Trade

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2205 (XXI) of 17 December 1966, by which it established the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law with a mandate to further the progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade and in that respect to bear in mind the interests of all peoples, in particular those of developing countries, in the extensive development of international trade,

Considering that problems created by uncertainties as to the content and the choice of the legal regime applicable to the assignment of receivables constitute an obstacle to international trade,

Convinced that the adoption of a convention on the assignment of receivables in international trade will enhance transparency, contribute to overcoming the problems of uncertainties in this field and promote the availability of capital and credit at more affordable rates, while protecting existing assignment practices and facilitating the development of new practices, as well as ensuring adequate protection of the interests of debtors in assignments of receivables,

Recalling that, at its twenty-eighth session in 1995, the Commission decided to prepare uniform legislation on assignment in receivables financing and entrusted the Working

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[21] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

Group on International Contract Practices with the preparation of a draft,[22]

Noting that the Working Group on International Contract Practices devoted nine sessions, from 1995 to 2000, to the preparation of the draft Convention on the Assignment of Receivables in International Trade, and that the Commission considered the draft Convention at its thirty-third session in 2000[23] and at its thirty-fourth session in 2001,[24]

Being aware that all States and interested international organizations were invited to participate in the preparation of the draft Convention at all the sessions of the Working Group and at the thirty-third and thirty-fourth sessions of the Commission, either as members or as observers, with a full opportunity to speak and make proposals,

Noting with satisfaction that the text of the draft Convention was circulated for comments once before the thirty-third session of the Commission and a second time in its revised version before the thirty-fourth session of the Commission to all Governments and international organizations invited to attend the meetings of the Commission and the Working Group as observers, and that the comments received were before the Commission at its thirty-third[25] and thirty-fourth[26] sessions,

Taking note with satisfaction of the decision of the Commission at its thirty-fourth session to submit the draft Convention to the General Assembly for its consideration,[27]

Taking note of the draft Convention adopted by the Commission,[28]

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law for preparing the draft Convention on the Assignment of Receivables in International Trade;[28]

2. *Adopts and opens for signature or accession* the United Nations Convention on the Assignment of Receivables in International Trade, contained in the annex to the present resolution;

3. *Calls upon* all Governments to consider becoming party to the Convention.

Annex

United Nations Convention on the Assignment of Receivables in International Trade

Preamble

The Contracting States,

Reaffirming their conviction that international trade on the basis of equality and mutual benefit is an important element in the promotion of friendly relations among States,

Considering that problems created by uncertainties as to the content and the choice of legal regime applicable to the assignment of receivables constitute an obstacle to international trade,

Desiring to establish principles and to adopt rules relating to the assignment of receivables that would create certainty and transparency and promote the modernization of the law relating to assignments of receivables, while protecting existing assignment practices and facilitating the development of new practices,

Desiring also to ensure adequate protection of the interests of debtors in assignments of receivables,

Being of the opinion that the adoption of uniform rules governing the assignment of receivables would promote the availability of capital and credit at more affordable rates and thus facilitate the development of international trade,

Have agreed as follows:

Chapter I
Scope of application

Article 1
Scope of application

1. This Convention applies to:

(*a*) Assignments of international receivables and to international assignments of receivables as defined in this chapter, if, at the time of conclusion of the contract of assignment, the assignor is located in a Contracting State; and

(*b*) Subsequent assignments, provided that any prior assignment is governed by this Convention.

2. This Convention applies to subsequent assignments that satisfy the criteria set forth in paragraph 1 (*a*) of this article, even if it did not apply to any prior assignment of the same receivable.

3. This Convention does not affect the rights and obligations of the debtor unless, at the time of conclusion of the original contract, the debtor is located in a Contracting State or the law governing the original contract is the law of a Contracting State.

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[22] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/50/17), para. 381.

[23] Ibid., *Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/55/17), chap. III.

[24] Ibid., *Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 17* and corrigendum (A/56/17 and Corr.3), chap. III.

[25] See A/CN.9/472 and Add.1–5.

[26] See A/CN.9/490 and Add.1–5.

[27] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 17* and corrigendum (A/56/17 and Corr.3), para. 200.

[28] Ibid., annex I.

4. The provisions of chapter V apply to assignments of international receivables and to international assignments of receivables as defined in this chapter independently of paragraphs 1 to 3 of this article. However, those provisions do not apply if a State makes a declaration under article 39.

5. The provisions of the annex to this Convention apply as provided in article 42.

Article 2
Assignment of receivables

For the purposes of this Convention:

(*a*) "Assignment" means the transfer by agreement from one person ("assignor") to another person ("assignee") of all or part of or an undivided interest in the assignor's contractual right to payment of a monetary sum ("receivable") from a third person ("the debtor"). The creation of rights in receivables as security for indebtedness or other obligation is deemed to be a transfer;

(*b*) In the case of an assignment by the initial or any other assignee ("subsequent assignment"), the person who makes that assignment is the assignor and the person to whom that assignment is made is the assignee.

Article 3
Internationality

A receivable is international if, at the time of conclusion of the original contract, the assignor and the debtor are located in different States. An assignment is international if, at the time of conclusion of the contract of assignment, the assignor and the assignee are located in different States.

Article 4
Exclusions and other limitations

1. This Convention does not apply to assignments made:

(*a*) To an individual for his or her personal, family or household purposes;

(*b*) As part of the sale or change in the ownership or legal status of the business out of which the assigned receivables arose.

2. This Convention does not apply to assignments of receivables arising under or from:

(*a*) Transactions on a regulated exchange;

(*b*) Financial contracts governed by netting agreements, except a receivable owed on the termination of all outstanding transactions;

(*c*) Foreign exchange transactions;

(*d*) Inter-bank payment systems, inter-bank payment agreements or clearance and settlement systems relating to securities or other financial assets or instruments;

(*e*) The transfer of security rights in, sale, loan or holding of or agreement to repurchase securities or other financial assets or instruments held with an intermediary;

(*f*) Bank deposits;

(*g*) A letter of credit or independent guarantee.

3. Nothing in this Convention affects the rights and obligations of any person under the law governing negotiable instruments.

4. Nothing in this Convention affects the rights and obligations of the assignor and the debtor under special laws governing the protection of parties to transactions made for personal, family or household purposes.

5. Nothing in this Convention:

(*a*) Affects the application of the law of a State in which real property is situated to either:

(i) An interest in that real property to the extent that under that law the assignment of a receivable confers such an interest; or

(ii) The priority of a right in a receivable to the extent that under that law an interest in the real property confers such a right; or

(*b*) Makes lawful the acquisition of an interest in real property not permitted under the law of the State in which the real property is situated.

Chapter II
General provisions

Article 5
Definitions and rules of interpretation

For the purposes of this Convention:

(*a*) "Original contract" means the contract between the assignor and the debtor from which the assigned receivable arises;

(*b*) "Existing receivable" means a receivable that arises upon or before conclusion of the contract of assignment and "future receivable" means a receivable that arises after conclusion of the contract of assignment;

(*c*) "Writing" means any form of information that is accessible so as to be usable for subsequent reference. Where this Convention requires a writing to be signed, that requirement is met if, by generally accepted means or a procedure agreed to by the person whose signature is required, the writing identifies that person and indicates that person's approval of the information contained in the writing;

(*d*) "Notification of the assignment" means a communication in writing that reasonably identifies the assigned receivables and the assignee;

(*e*) "Insolvency administrator" means a person or body, including one appointed on an interim basis, authorized in an insolvency proceeding to administer the reorganization or liquidation of the assignor's assets or affairs;

(*f*) "Insolvency proceeding" means a collective judicial or administrative proceeding, including an interim proceeding, in which the assets and affairs of the assignor are subject to control or supervision by a court or other competent authority for the purpose of reorganization or liquidation;

(*g*) "Priority" means the right of a person in preference to the right of another person and, to the extent relevant for such purpose, includes the determination whether the right is a personal or a property right, whether or not it is a security right for indebtedness or other obligation and whether any requirements necessary to render the right effective against a competing claimant have been satisfied;

(*h*) A person is located in the State in which it has its place of business. If the assignor or the assignee has a place of business in more than one State, the place of business is that place where the central administration of the assignor or the assignee is exercised. If the debtor has a place of business in more than one State, the place of business is that which has the closest relationship to the original contract. If a person does not have a place of business, reference is to be made to the habitual residence of that person;

(*i*) "Law" means the law in force in a State other than its rules of private international law;

(*j*) "Proceeds" means whatever is received in respect of an assigned receivable, whether in total or partial payment or other satisfaction of the receivable. The term includes whatever is received in respect of proceeds. The term does not include returned goods;

(*k*) "Financial contract" means any spot, forward, future, option or swap transaction involving interest rates, commodities, currencies, equities, bonds, indices or any other financial instrument, any repurchase or securities lending transaction, and any other transaction similar to any transaction referred to above entered into in financial markets and any combination of the transactions mentioned above;

(*l*) "Netting agreement" means an agreement between two or more parties that provides for one or more of the following:

(i) The net settlement of payments due in the same currency on the same date whether by notation or otherwise;

(ii) Upon the insolvency or other default by a party, the termination of all outstanding transactions at their replacement or fair market values, conversion of such sums into a single currency and netting into a single payment by one party to the other; or

(iii) The set-off of amounts calculated as set forth in subparagraph (*l*) (ii) of this article under two or more netting agreements;

(*m*) "Competing claimant" means:

(i) Another assignee of the same receivable from the same assignor, including a person who, by operation of law, claims a right in the assigned receivable as a result of its right in other property of the assignor, even if that receivable is not an international receivable and the assignment to that assignee is not an international assignment;

(ii) A creditor of the assignor; or

(iii) The insolvency administrator.

Article 6
Party autonomy

Subject to article 19, the assignor, the assignee and the debtor may derogate from or vary by agreement provisions of this Convention relating to their respective rights and obligations. Such an agreement does not affect the rights of any person who is not a party to the agreement.

Article 7
Principles of interpretation

1. In the interpretation of this Convention, regard is to be had to its object and purpose as set forth in the preamble, to its international character and to the need to promote uniformity in its application and the observance of good faith in international trade.

2. Questions concerning matters governed by this Convention that are not expressly settled in it are to be settled in conformity with the general principles on which it is based or, in the absence of such principles, in conformity with the law applicable by virtue of the rules of private international law.

Chapter III
Effects of assignment

Article 8
Effectiveness of assignments

1. An assignment is not ineffective as between the assignor and the assignee or as against the debtor or as against a competing claimant, and the right of an assignee may not be denied priority, on the ground that it is an assignment of more than one receivable, future receivables or parts of or undivided interests in receivables, provided that the receivables are described:

(*a*) Individually as receivables to which the assignment relates; or

(*b*) In any other manner, provided that they can, at the time of the assignment or, in the case of future receivables, at the time of conclusion of the original contract, be identified as receivables to which the assignment relates.

2. Unless otherwise agreed, an assignment of one or more future receivables is effective without a new act of transfer being required to assign each receivable.

3. Except as provided in paragraph 1 of this article, article 9 and article 10, paragraphs 2 and 3, this Convention does not affect any limitations on assignments arising from law.

Article 9
Contractual limitations on assignments

1. An assignment of a receivable is effective notwithstanding any agreement between the initial or any subsequent assignor and the debtor or any subsequent assignee limiting in any way the assignor's right to assign its receivables.

2. Nothing in this article affects any obligation or liability of the assignor for breach of such an agreement, but the other party to such agreement may not avoid the original contract or the assignment contract on the sole ground of that breach. A person who is not party to such an agreement is not liable on the sole ground that it had knowledge of the agreement.

3. This article applies only to assignments of receivables:

(*a*) Arising from an original contract that is a contract for the supply or lease of goods or services other than financial services, a construction contract or a contract for the sale or lease of real property;

(*b*) Arising from an original contract for the sale, lease or licence of industrial or other intellectual property or of proprietary information;

(*c*) Representing the payment obligation for a credit card transaction; or

(*d*) Owed to the assignor upon net settlement of payments due pursuant to a netting agreement involving more than two parties.

Article 10
Transfer of security rights

1. A personal or property right securing payment of the assigned receivable is transferred to the assignee without a new act of transfer. If such a right, under the law governing it, is transferable only with a new act of transfer, the assignor is obliged to transfer such right and any proceeds to the assignee.

2. A right securing payment of the assigned receivable is transferred under paragraph 1 of this article notwithstanding any agreement between the assignor and the debtor or other person granting that right, limiting in any way the assignor's right to assign the receivable or the right securing payment of the assigned receivable.

3. Nothing in this article affects any obligation or liability of the assignor for breach of any agreement under paragraph 2 of this article, but the other party to that agreement may not avoid the original contract or the assignment contract on the sole ground of that breach. A person who is not a party to such an agreement is not liable on the sole ground that it had knowledge of the agreement.

4. Paragraphs 2 and 3 of this article apply only to assignments of receivables:

(*a*) Arising from an original contract that is a contract for the supply or lease of goods or services other than financial services, a construction contract or a contract for the sale or lease of real property;

(*b*) Arising from an original contract for the sale, lease or licence of industrial or other intellectual property or of proprietary information;

(*c*) Representing the payment obligation for a credit card transaction; or

(*d*) Owed to the assignor upon net settlement of payments due pursuant to a netting agreement involving more than two parties.

5. The transfer of a possessory property right under paragraph 1 of this article does not affect any obligations of the assignor to the debtor or the person granting the property right with respect to the property transferred existing under the law governing that property right.

6. Paragraph 1 of this article does not affect any requirement under rules of law other than this Convention relating to the form or registration of the transfer of any rights securing payment of the assigned receivable.

Chapter IV
Rights, obligations and defences

Section I
Assignor and assignee

Article 11
Rights and obligations of the assignor and the assignee

1. The mutual rights and obligations of the assignor and the assignee arising from their agreement are determined by the terms and conditions set forth in that agreement, including any rules or general conditions referred to therein.

2. The assignor and the assignee are bound by any usage to which they have agreed and, unless otherwise agreed, by any practices they have established between themselves.

3. In an international assignment, the assignor and the assignee are considered, unless otherwise agreed, implicitly to have made applicable to the assignment a usage that in international trade is widely known to, and regularly observed by, parties to the particular type of assignment or to the assignment of the particular category of receivables.

Article 12
Representations of the assignor

1. Unless otherwise agreed between the assignor and the assignee, the assignor represents at the time of conclusion of the contract of assignment that:

(*a*) The assignor has the right to assign the receivable;

(*b*) The assignor has not previously assigned the receivable to another assignee; and

(*c*) The debtor does not and will not have any defences or rights of set-off.

2. Unless otherwise agreed between the assignor and the assignee, the assignor does not represent that the debtor has, or will have, the ability to pay.

Article 13
Right to notify the debtor

1. Unless otherwise agreed between the assignor and the assignee, the assignor or the assignee or both may send the debtor notification of the assignment and a payment instruction, but after notification has been sent only the assignee may send such an instruction.

2. Notification of the assignment or a payment instruction sent in breach of any agreement referred to in paragraph 1 of this article is not ineffective for the purposes of article 17 by reason of such breach. However, nothing in this article affects any obligation or liability of the party in breach of such an agreement for any damages arising as a result of the breach.

Article 14
Right to payment

1. As between the assignor and the assignee, unless otherwise agreed and whether or not notification of the assignment has been sent:

(*a*) If payment in respect of the assigned receivable is made to the assignee, the assignee is entitled to retain the proceeds and goods returned in respect of the assigned receivable;

(*b*) If payment in respect of the assigned receivable is made to the assignor, the assignee is entitled to payment of the proceeds and also to goods returned to the assignor in respect of the assigned receivable; and

(*c*) If payment in respect of the assigned receivable is made to another person over whom the assignee has priority, the assignee is entitled to payment of the proceeds and also to goods returned to such person in respect of the assigned receivable.

2. The assignee may not retain more than the value of its right in the receivable.

Section II
Debtor

Article 15
Principle of debtor protection

1. Except as otherwise provided in this Convention, an assignment does not, without the consent of the debtor, affect the rights and obligations of the debtor, including the payment terms contained in the original contract.

2. A payment instruction may change the person, address or account to which the debtor is required to make payment, but may not change:

(*a*) The currency of payment specified in the original contract; or

(*b*) The State specified in the original contract in which payment is to be made to a State other than that in which the debtor is located.

Article 16
Notification of the debtor

1. Notification of the assignment or a payment instruction is effective when received by the debtor if it is in a language that is reasonably expected to inform the debtor about its contents. It is sufficient if notification of the assignment or a payment instruction is in the language of the original contract.

2. Notification of the assignment or a payment instruction may relate to receivables arising after notification.

3. Notification of a subsequent assignment constitutes notification of all prior assignments.

Article 17
Debtor's discharge by payment

1. Until the debtor receives notification of the assignment, the debtor is entitled to be discharged by paying in accordance with the original contract.

2. After the debtor receives notification of the assignment, subject to paragraphs 3 to 8 of this article, the debtor is discharged only by paying the assignee or, if otherwise instructed in the notification of the assignment or subsequently

by the assignee in a writing received by the debtor, in accordance with such payment instruction.

3. If the debtor receives more than one payment instruction relating to a single assignment of the same receivable by the same assignor, the debtor is discharged by paying in accordance with the last payment instruction received from the assignee before payment.

4. If the debtor receives notification of more than one assignment of the same receivable made by the same assignor, the debtor is discharged by paying in accordance with the first notification received.

5. If the debtor receives notification of one or more subsequent assignments, the debtor is discharged by paying in accordance with the notification of the last of such subsequent assignments.

6. If the debtor receives notification of the assignment of a part of or an undivided interest in one or more receivables, the debtor is discharged by paying in accordance with the notification or in accordance with this article as if the debtor had not received the notification. If the debtor pays in accordance with the notification, the debtor is discharged only to the extent of the part or undivided interest paid.

7. If the debtor receives notification of the assignment from the assignee, the debtor is entitled to request the assignee to provide within a reasonable period of time adequate proof that the assignment from the initial assignor to the initial assignee and any intermediate assignment have been made and, unless the assignee does so, the debtor is discharged by paying in accordance with this article as if the notification from the assignee had not been received. Adequate proof of an assignment includes but is not limited to any writing emanating from the assignor and indicating that the assignment has taken place.

8. This article does not affect any other ground on which payment by the debtor to the person entitled to payment, to a competent judicial or other authority, or to a public deposit fund discharges the debtor.

Article 18
Defences and rights of set-off of the debtor

1. In a claim by the assignee against the debtor for payment of the assigned receivable, the debtor may raise against the assignee all defences and rights of set-off arising from the original contract, or any other contract that was part of the same transaction, of which the debtor could avail itself as if the assignment had not been made and such claim were made by the assignor.

2. The debtor may raise against the assignee any other right of set-off, provided that it was available to the debtor at the time notification of the assignment was received by the debtor.

3. Notwithstanding paragraphs 1 and 2 of this article defences and rights of set-off that the debtor may raise pursuant to article 9 or 10 against the assignor for breach of an agreement limiting in any way the assignor's right to make the assignment are not available to the debtor against the assignee.

Article 19
Agreement not to raise defences or rights of set-off

1. The debtor may agree with the assignor in a writing signed by the debtor not to raise against the assignee the defences and rights of set-off that it could raise pursuant to article 18. Such an agreement precludes the debtor from raising against the assignee those defences and rights of set-off.

2. The debtor may not waive defences:

(*a*) Arising from fraudulent acts on the part of the assignee; or

(*b*) Based on the debtor's incapacity.

3. Such an agreement may be modified only by an agreement in a writing signed by the debtor. The effect of such a modification as against the assignee is determined by article 20, paragraph 2.

Article 20
Modification of the original contract

1. An agreement concluded before notification of the assignment between the assignor and the debtor that affects the assignee's rights is effective as against the assignee, and the assignee acquires corresponding rights.

2. An agreement concluded after notification of the assignment between the assignor and the debtor that affects the assignee's rights is ineffective as against the assignee unless:

(*a*) The assignee consents to it; or

(*b*) The receivable is not fully earned by performance and either the modification is provided for in the original contract or, in the context of the original contract, a reasonable assignee would consent to the modification.

3. Paragraphs 1 and 2 of this article do not affect any right of the assignor or the assignee arising from breach of an agreement between them.

Article 21
Recovery of payments

Failure of the assignor to perform the original contract does not entitle the debtor to recover from the assignee a sum paid by the debtor to the assignor or the assignee.

Section III
Third parties

Article 22
Law applicable to competing rights

With the exception of matters that are settled elsewhere in this Convention and subject to articles 23 and 24, the law of the State in which the assignor is located governs the priority of the right of an assignee in the assigned receivable over the right of a competing claimant.

Article 23
Public policy and mandatory rules

1. The application of a provision of the law of the State in which the assignor is located may be refused only if the application of that provision is manifestly contrary to the public policy of the forum State.

2. The rules of the law of either the forum State or any other State that are mandatory irrespective of the law otherwise applicable may not prevent the application of a provision of the law of the State in which the assignor is located.

3. Notwithstanding paragraph 2 of this article, in an insolvency proceeding commenced in a State other than the State in which the assignor is located, any preferential right that arises, by operation of law, under the law of the forum State and is given priority over the rights of an assignee in insolvency proceedings under the law of that State may be given priority notwithstanding article 22. A State may deposit at any time a declaration identifying any such preferential right.

Article 24
Special rules on proceeds

1. If proceeds are received by the assignee, the assignee is entitled to retain those proceeds to the extent that the assignee's right in the assigned receivable had priority over the right of a competing claimant in the assigned receivable.

2. If proceeds are received by the assignor, the right of the assignee in those proceeds has priority over the right of a competing claimant in those proceeds to the same extent as the assignee's right had priority over the right in the assigned receivable of that claimant if:

(*a*) The assignor has received the proceeds under instructions from the assignee to hold the proceeds for the benefit of the assignee; and

(*b*) The proceeds are held by the assignor for the benefit of the assignee separately and are reasonably identifiable from the assets of the assignor, such as in the case of a separate deposit or securities account containing only proceeds consisting of cash or securities.

3. Nothing in paragraph 2 of this article affects the priority of a person having against the proceeds a right of set-off or a right created by agreement and not derived from a right in the receivable.

Article 25
Subordination

An assignee entitled to priority may at any time subordinate its priority unilaterally or by agreement in favour of any existing or future assignees.

Chapter V
Autonomous conflict-of-laws rules

Article 26
Application of chapter V

The provisions of this chapter apply to matters that are:

(*a*) Within the scope of this Convention as provided in article 1, paragraph 4; and

(*b*) Otherwise within the scope of this Convention but not settled elsewhere in it.

Article 27
Form of a contract of assignment

1. A contract of assignment concluded between persons who are located in the same State is formally valid as between them if it satisfies the requirements of either the law which governs it or the law of the State in which it is concluded.

2. A contract of assignment concluded between persons who are located in different States is formally valid as between them if it satisfies the requirements of either the law which governs it or the law of one of those States.

Article 28
Law applicable to the mutual rights and obligations of the assignor and the assignee

1. The mutual rights and obligations of the assignor and the assignee arising from their agreement are governed by the law chosen by them.

2. In the absence of a choice of law by the assignor and the assignee, their mutual rights and obligations arising from their agreement are governed by the law of the State with which the contract of assignment is most closely connected.

Article 29
Law applicable to the rights and obligations of the assignee and the debtor

The law governing the original contract determines the effectiveness of contractual limitations on assignment as between the assignee and the debtor, the relationship between the assignee and the debtor, the conditions under which the assignment can be invoked against the debtor and whether the debtor's obligations have been discharged.

Article 30
Law applicable to priority

1. The law of the State in which the assignor is located governs the priority of the right of an assignee in the assigned receivable over the right of a competing claimant.

2. The rules of the law of either the forum State or any other State that are mandatory irrespective of the law otherwise applicable may not prevent the application of a provision of the law of the State in which the assignor is located.

3. Notwithstanding paragraph 2 of this article, in an insolvency proceeding commenced in a State other than the State in which the assignor is located, any preferential right that arises, by operation of law, under the law of the forum State and is given priority over the rights of an assignee in insolvency proceedings under the law of that State may be given priority notwithstanding paragraph 1 of this article.

Article 31
Mandatory rules

1. Nothing in articles 27 to 29 restricts the application of the rules of the law of the forum State in a situation where they are mandatory irrespective of the law otherwise applicable.

2. Nothing in articles 27 to 29 restricts the application of the mandatory rules of the law of another State with which the matters settled in those articles have a close connection if and insofar as, under the law of that other State, those rules must be applied irrespective of the law otherwise applicable.

Article 32
Public policy

With regard to matters settled in this chapter, the application of a provision of the law specified in this chapter may be refused only if the application of that provision is manifestly contrary to the public policy of the forum State.

Chapter VI
Final provisions

Article 33
Depositary

The Secretary-General of the United Nations is the depositary of this Convention.

Article 34
Signature, ratification, acceptance, approval, accession

1. This Convention is open for signature by all States at the Headquarters of the United Nations in New York until 31 December 2003.

2. This Convention is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by the signatory States.

3. This Convention is open to accession by all States that are not signatory States as from the date it is open for signature.

4. Instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval and accession are to be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Article 35
Application to territorial units

1. If a State has two or more territorial units in which different systems of law are applicable in relation to the matters dealt with in this Convention, it may at any time declare that this Convention is to extend to all its territorial units or only one or more of them, and may at any time substitute another declaration for its earlier declaration.

2. Such declarations are to state expressly the territorial units to which this Convention extends.

3. If, by virtue of a declaration under this article, this Convention does not extend to all territorial units of a State and the assignor or the debtor is located in a territorial unit to which this Convention does not extend, this location is considered not to be in a Contracting State.

4. If, by virtue of a declaration under this article, this Convention does not extend to all territorial units of a State and the law governing the original contract is the law in force in a territorial unit to which this Convention does not extend, the law governing the original contract is considered not to be the law of a Contracting State.

5. If a State makes no declaration under paragraph 1 of this article, the Convention is to extend to all territorial units of that State.

Article 36
Location in a territorial unit

If a person is located in a State which has two or more territorial units, that person is located in the territorial unit in which it has its place of business. If the assignor or the assignee has a place of business in more than one territorial unit, the place of business is that place where the central administration of the assignor or the assignee is exercised. If the debtor has a place of business in more than one territorial unit, the place of business is that which has the closest relationship to the original contract. If a person does not have a place of business, reference is to be made to the habitual residence of that person. A State with two or more territorial units may specify by declaration at any time other rules for determining the location of a person within that State.

Article 37
Applicable law in territorial units

Any reference in this Convention to the law of a State means, in the case of a State which has two or more territorial units, the law in force in the territorial unit. Such a State may specify by declaration at any time other rules for determining the applicable law, including rules that render applicable the law of another territorial unit of that State.

Article 38
Conflicts with other international agreements

1. This Convention does not prevail over any international agreement that has already been or may be entered into and that specifically governs a transaction otherwise governed by this Convention.

2. Notwithstanding paragraph 1 of this article, this Convention prevails over the Unidroit Convention on International Factoring ("the Ottawa Convention"). To the extent that this Convention does not apply to the rights and obligations of a debtor, it does not preclude the application of the Ottawa Convention with respect to the rights and obligations of that debtor.

Article 39
Declaration on application of chapter V

A State may declare at any time that it will not be bound by chapter V.

Article 40
Limitations relating to Governments and other public entities

A State may declare at any time that it will not be bound or the extent to which it will not be bound by articles 9 and 10 if the debtor or any person granting a personal or property right securing payment of the assigned receivable is located in that State at the time of conclusion of the original contract and is a Government, central or local, any subdivision thereof, or an entity constituted for a public purpose. If a State has made such a declaration, articles 9 and 10 do not affect the rights and obligations of that debtor or person. A State may list in a declaration the types of entity that are the subject of a declaration.

Article 41
Other exclusions

1. A State may declare at any time that it will not apply this Convention to specific types of assignment or to the assignment of specific categories of receivables clearly described in a declaration.

2. After a declaration under paragraph 1 of this article takes effect:

(*a*) This Convention does not apply to such types of assignment or to the assignment of such categories of receivables if the assignor is located at the time of conclusion of the contract of assignment in such a State; and

(*b*) The provisions of this Convention that affect the rights and obligations of the debtor do not apply if, at the time of conclusion of the original contract, the debtor is located in such a State or the law governing the original contract is the law of such a State.

3. This article does not apply to assignments of receivables listed in article 9, paragraph 3.

Article 42
Application of the annex

1. A State may at any time declare that it will be bound by:

(*a*) The priority rules set forth in section I of the annex and will participate in the international registration system established pursuant to section II of the annex;

(*b*) The priority rules set forth in section I of the annex and will effectuate such rules by use of a registration system that fulfils the purposes of such rules, in which case, for the purposes of section I of the annex, registration pursuant to such a system has the same effect as registration pursuant to section II of the annex;

(*c*) The priority rules set forth in section III of the annex;

(*d*) The priority rules set forth in section IV of the annex; or

(*e*) The priority rules set forth in articles 7 and 9 of the annex.

2. For the purposes of article 22:

(*a*) The law of a State that has made a declaration pursuant to paragraph 1 (*a*) or (*b*) of this article is the set of rules set forth in section I of the annex, as affected by any declaration made pursuant to paragraph 5 of this article;

(*b*) The law of a State that has made a declaration pursuant to paragraph 1 (*c*) of this article is the set of rules set forth in section III of the annex, as affected by any declaration made pursuant to paragraph 5 of this article;

(*c*) The law of a State that has made a declaration pursuant to paragraph 1 (*d*) of this article is the set of rules set forth in section IV of the annex, as affected by any declaration made pursuant to paragraph 5 of this article; and

(*d*) The law of a State that has made a declaration pursuant to paragraph 1 (*e*) of this article is the set of rules set forth in articles 7 and 9 of the annex, as affected by any declaration made pursuant to paragraph 5 of this article.

3. A State that has made a declaration pursuant to paragraph 1 of this article may establish rules pursuant to which contracts of assignment concluded before the declaration takes effect become subject to those rules within a reasonable time.

4. A State that has not made a declaration pursuant to paragraph 1 of this article may, in accordance with priority rules in force in that State, utilize the registration system established pursuant to section II of the annex.

5. At the time a State makes a declaration pursuant to paragraph 1 of this article or thereafter, it may declare that:

(*a*) It will not apply the priority rules chosen under paragraph 1 of this article to certain types of assignment or to the assignment of certain categories of receivables; or

(*b*) It will apply those priority rules with modifications specified in that declaration.

6. At the request of Contracting or Signatory States to this Convention comprising not less than one third of the Contracting and Signatory States, the depositary shall convene a conference of the Contracting and Signatory States to designate the supervising authority and the first registrar and to prepare or revise the regulations referred to in section II of the annex.

Article 43
Effect of declaration

1. Declarations made under articles 35, paragraph 1, 36, 37 or 39 to 42 at the time of signature are subject to confirmation upon ratification, acceptance or approval.

2. Declarations and confirmations of declarations are to be in writing and to be formally notified to the depositary.

3. A declaration takes effect simultaneously with the entry into force of this Convention in respect of the State concerned. However, a declaration of which the depositary receives formal notification after such entry into force takes effect on the first day of the month following the expiration of six months after the date of its receipt by the depositary.

4. A State that makes a declaration under articles 35, paragraph 1, 36, 37 or 39 to 42 may withdraw it at any time by a formal notification in writing addressed to the depositary. Such withdrawal takes effect on the first day of the month following the expiration of six months after the date of the receipt of the notification by the depositary.

5. In the case of a declaration under articles 35, paragraph 1, 36, 37 or 39 to 42 that takes effect after the entry into force of this Convention in respect of the State concerned or in the case of a withdrawal of any such declaration, the effect of which in either case is to cause a rule in this Convention, including any annex, to become applicable:

(*a*) Except as provided in paragraph 5 (*b*) of this article, that rule is applicable only to assignments for which the contract of assignment is concluded on or after the date when the declaration or withdrawal takes effect in respect of the Contracting State referred to in article 1, paragraph 1 (*a*);

(*b*) A rule that deals with the rights and obligations of the debtor applies only in respect of original contracts concluded on or after the date when the declaration or withdrawal takes effect in respect of the Contracting State referred to in article 1, paragraph 3.

6. In the case of a declaration under articles 35, paragraph 1, 36, 37 or 39 to 42 that takes effect after the entry into force of this Convention in respect of the State concerned or in the case of a withdrawal of any such declaration, the effect of which in either case is to cause a rule in this Convention, including any annex, to become inapplicable:

(*a*) Except as provided in paragraph 6 (*b*) of this article, that rule is inapplicable to assignments for which the contract of assignment is concluded on or after the date when the declaration or withdrawal takes effect in respect of the Contracting State referred to in article 1, paragraph 1 (*a*);

(*b*) A rule that deals with the rights and obligations of the debtor is inapplicable in respect of original contracts concluded on or after the date when the declaration or withdrawal takes effect in respect of the Contracting State referred to in article 1, paragraph 3.

7. If a rule rendered applicable or inapplicable as a result of a declaration or withdrawal referred to in paragraph 5 or 6 of this article is relevant to the determination of priority with respect to a receivable for which the contract of assignment is concluded before such declaration or withdrawal takes effect or with respect to its proceeds, the right of the assignee has priority over the right of a competing claimant to the extent that, under the law that would determine priority before such declaration or withdrawal takes effect, the right of the assignee would have priority.

Article 44
Reservations

No reservations are permitted except those expressly authorized in this Convention.

Article 45
Entry into force

1. This Convention enters into force on the first day of the month following the expiration of six months from the date of deposit of the fifth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession with the depositary.

2. For each State that becomes a Contracting State to this Convention after the date of deposit of the fifth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, this Convention enters into force on the first day of the month following the

expiration of six months after the date of deposit of the appropriate instrument on behalf of that State.

3. This Convention applies only to assignments if the contract of assignment is concluded on or after the date when this Convention enters into force in respect of the Contracting State referred to in article 1, paragraph 1 (*a*), provided that the provisions of this Convention that deal with the rights and obligations of the debtor apply only to assignments of receivables arising from original contracts concluded on or after the date when this Convention enters into force in respect of the Contracting State referred to in article 1, paragraph 3.

4. If a receivable is assigned pursuant to a contract of assignment concluded before the date when this Convention enters into force in respect of the Contracting State referred to in article 1, paragraph 1 (*a*), the right of the assignee has priority over the right of a competing claimant with respect to the receivable to the extent that, under the law that would determine priority in the absence of this Convention, the right of the assignee would have priority.

Article 46
Denunciation

1. A Contracting State may denounce this Convention at any time by written notification addressed to the depositary.

2. The denunciation takes effect on the first day of the month following the expiration of one year after the notification is received by the depositary. Where a longer period is specified in the notification, the denunciation takes effect upon the expiration of such longer period after the notification is received by the depositary.

3. This Convention remains applicable to assignments if the contract of assignment is concluded before the date when the denunciation takes effect in respect of the Contracting State referred to in article 1, paragraph 1 (*a*), provided that the provisions of this Convention that deal with the rights and obligations of the debtor remain applicable only to assignments of receivables arising from original contracts concluded before the date when the denunciation takes effect in respect of the Contracting State referred to in article 1, paragraph 3.

4. If a receivable is assigned pursuant to a contract of assignment concluded before the date when the denunciation takes effect in respect of the Contracting State referred to in article 1, paragraph 1 (*a*), the right of the assignee has priority over the right of a competing claimant with respect to the receivable to the extent that, under the law that would determine priority under this Convention, the right of the assignee would have priority.

Article 47
Revision and amendment

1. At the request of not less than one third of the Contracting States to this Convention, the depositary shall convene a conference of the Contracting States to revise or amend it.

2. Any instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession deposited after the entry into force of an amendment to this Convention is deemed to apply to the Convention as amended.

Annex to the Convention

Section I
Priority rules based on registration

Article 1
Priority among several assignees

As between assignees of the same receivable from the same assignor, the priority of the right of an assignee in the assigned receivable is determined by the order in which data about the assignment are registered under section II of this annex, regardless of the time of transfer of the receivable. If no such data are registered, priority is determined by the order of conclusion of the respective contracts of assignment.

Article 2
Priority between the assignee and the insolvency administrator or creditors of the assignor

The right of an assignee in an assigned receivable has priority over the right of an insolvency administrator and creditors who obtain a right in the assigned receivable by attachment, judicial act or similar act of a competent authority that gives rise to such right, if the receivable was assigned, and data about the assignment were registered under section II of this annex, before the commencement of such insolvency proceeding, attachment, judicial act or similar act.

Section II
Registration

Article 3
Establishment of a registration system

A registration system will be established for the registration of data about assignments, even if the relevant assignment or receivable is not international, pursuant to the regulations to be promulgated by the registrar and the supervising authority. Regulations promulgated by the registrar and the supervising authority under this annex shall be consistent with this annex. The regulations will prescribe in detail the manner in which the registration system will operate, as well as the procedure for resolving disputes relating to that operation.

Article 4
Registration

1. Any person may register data with regard to an assignment at the registry in accordance with this annex and the regulations. As provided in the regulations, the data registered shall be the identification of the assignor and the assignee and a brief description of the assigned receivables.

2. A single registration may cover one or more assignments by the assignor to the assignee of one or more existing or future receivables, irrespective of whether the receivables exist at the time of registration.

3. A registration may be made in advance of the assignment to which it relates. The regulations will establish the procedure for the cancellation of a registration in the event that the assignment is not made.

4. Registration or its amendment is effective from the time when the data set forth in paragraph 1 of this article are available to searchers. The registering party may specify, from options set forth in the regulations, a period of effectiveness for the registration. In the absence of such a specification, a registration is effective for a period of five years.

5. Regulations will specify the manner in which registration may be renewed, amended or cancelled and regulate such other matters as are necessary for the operation of the registration system.

6. Any defect, irregularity, omission or error with regard to the identification of the assignor that would result in data registered not being found upon a search based on a proper identification of the assignor renders the registration ineffective.

Article 5
Registry searches

1. Any person may search the records of the registry according to identification of the assignor, as set forth in the regulations, and obtain a search result in writing.

2. A search result in writing that purports to be issued by the registry is admissible as evidence and is, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, proof of the registration of the data to which the search relates, including the date and hour of registration.

Section III
Priority rules based on the time of the contract of assignment

Article 6
Priority among several assignees

As between assignees of the same receivable from the same assignor, the priority of the right of an assignee in the assigned receivable is determined by the order of conclusion of the respective contracts of assignment.

Article 7
Priority between the assignee and the insolvency administrator or creditors of the assignor

The right of an assignee in an assigned receivable has priority over the right of an insolvency administrator and creditors who obtain a right in the assigned receivable by attachment, judicial act or similar act of a competent authority that gives rise to such right, if the receivable was assigned before the commencement of such insolvency proceeding, attachment, judicial act or similar act.

Article 8
Proof of time of contract of assignment

The time of conclusion of a contract of assignment in respect of articles 6 and 7 of this annex may be proved by any means, including witnesses.

Section IV
Priority rules based on the time of notification of assignment

Article 9
Priority among several assignees

As between assignees of the same receivable from the same assignor, the priority of the right of an assignee in the assigned receivable is determined by the order in which notification of the respective assignments is received by the debtor. However, an assignee may not obtain priority over a prior assignment of which the assignee had knowledge at the time of conclusion of the contract of assignment to that assignee by notifying the debtor.

Article 10
Priority between the assignee and the insolvency administrator or creditors of the assignor

The right of an assignee in an assigned receivable has priority over the right of an insolvency administrator and creditors who obtain a right in the assigned receivable by attachment, judicial act or similar act of a competent authority that gives rise to such right, if the receivable was assigned and notification was received by the debtor before the commencement of such insolvency proceeding, attachment, judicial act or similar act.

DONE at ..., this ... day of ... two thousand one, in a single original, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned plenipotentiaries, being duly authorized by their respective Governments, have signed the present Convention.

RESOLUTION 56/82

Adopted at the 85th plenary meeting, on 12 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/589 and Corr.1, para. 10)[29]

56/82. Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-third session

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-third session,[30]

Emphasizing the importance of furthering the codification and progressive development of international law as a means of implementing the purposes and principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and in the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[31]

Recognizing the desirability of referring legal and drafting questions to the Sixth Committee, including topics that might be submitted to the International Law Commission for closer examination, and of enabling the Sixth Committee and the Commission to further enhance their contribution to the progressive development of international law and its codification,

Wishing to enhance further the interaction between the Sixth Committee as a body of governmental representatives and the International Law Commission as a body of independent legal experts, with a view to improving the dialogue between the two organs,

Recalling the need to keep under review those topics of international law which, given their new or renewed interest for the international community, may be suitable for the progressive development and codification of international law and therefore may be included in the future programme of work of the International Law Commission,

Welcoming the holding of the International Law Seminar, and noting with appreciation the voluntary contributions made to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Law Seminar,

Stressing the usefulness of structuring the debate on the report of the International Law Commission in the Sixth Committee in such a manner that conditions are provided for concentrated attention to each of the main topics dealt with in the report,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-third session;[30]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the International Law Commission for the work accomplished at its fifty-third session, in particular for the completion of the final draft articles on "Responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts" and for the valuable work done on the issue of prevention on the topic of "International liability for injurious consequences arising out of acts not prohibited by international law (prevention of transboundary harm from hazardous activities)";

3. *Requests* the International Law Commission, taking into consideration its decision at its forty-ninth session to proceed with its work on the topic of "International liability for injurious consequences arising out of acts not prohibited by international law", undertaking, as a first step, the issue of prevention,[32] to resume, during its fifty-fourth session, its consideration of the liability aspects of the topic, bearing in mind the interrelationship between prevention and liability and taking into account the developments in international law and comments by Governments;

4. *Draws the attention* of Governments to the importance for the International Law Commission of having their views on the various aspects involved in the topics on the agenda of the Commission, in particular on all the specific issues identified in chapter III of its report;

5. *Reiterates its invitation* to Governments, within the context of paragraph 4 above, to respond, to the extent possible, in writing by 28 February 2002 to the questionnaire and requests for materials on unilateral acts of States circulated by the Secretariat to all Governments on 31 August 2001;

6. *Also reiterates its invitation* to Governments to submit the most relevant national legislation, decisions of domestic courts and State practice relevant to diplomatic protection in order to assist the International Law Commission in its work on the topic "Diplomatic protection";

7. *Recommends* that the International Law Commission, taking into account the comments and observations of Governments, whether in writing or expressed orally in debates in the General Assembly, continue its work on the topics in its current programme;

8. *Requests* the International Law Commission, taking into account paragraph 259 of its report, to begin its work on the topic "Responsibility of international organizations" and to give further consideration to the remaining topics to be included in its long-term programme of work, having due regard to comments made by Governments;

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[29] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the representative of Colombia.

[30] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 10* and corrigendum (A/56/10 and Corr.1).

[31] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[32] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/52/10), chap. VII, para. 168.

9. *Invites* the International Law Commission to continue taking measures to enhance its efficiency and productivity;

10. *Takes note* of paragraph 260 of the report of the International Law Commission with regard to the cost-saving measures taken by the Commission in organizing its programme of work, and encourages the Commission to continue taking such measures at its future sessions;

11. *Takes note also* of paragraph 261 of the report, and decides that the next session of the International Law Commission shall be held at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 29 April to 7 June and from 22 July to 16 August 2002;

12. *Stresses* the desirability of further enhancing the dialogue between the International Law Commission and the Sixth Committee, and in this context encourages, inter alia, the holding of informal discussions between the members of the Sixth Committee and those members of the Commission attending the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly;

13. *Requests* the International Law Commission to continue to pay special attention to indicating in its annual report, for each topic, any specific issues on which expressions of views by Governments, either in the Sixth Committee or in written form, would be of particular interest in providing effective guidance for the Commission in its further work;

14. *Also requests* the International Law Commission to continue the implementation of article 16, paragraph (*e*), and article 26, paragraphs 1 and 2, of its statute in order to further strengthen cooperation between the Commission and other bodies concerned with international law, having in mind the usefulness of such cooperation;

15. *Notes* that consulting with national organizations and individual experts concerned with international law may assist Governments in considering whether to make comments and observations on drafts submitted by the International Law Commission and in formulating their comments and observations;

16. *Reaffirms* its previous decisions concerning the role of the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat and those concerning the summary records and other documentation of the International Law Commission;

17. *Expresses the hope* that the International Law Seminar will continue to be held in connection with the sessions of the International Law Commission and that an increasing number of participants, in particular from developing countries, will be given the opportunity to attend the Seminar, and appeals to States to continue to make urgently needed voluntary contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Law Seminar;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the International Law Seminar with adequate services, including interpretation, as required, and encourages him to continue considering ways to improve the structure and content of the Seminar;

19. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to forward to the International Law Commission, for its attention, the records of the debate on the report of the Commission at the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, together with such written statements as delegations may circulate in conjunction with their oral statements, and to prepare and distribute a topical summary of the debate, following established practice;

20. *Requests* the Secretariat to circulate to States, as soon as possible after the conclusion of the session of the International Law Commission, chapter II of its report containing a summary of the work of that session and the draft articles adopted on either first or second reading by the Commission;

21. *Recommends* that the debate on the report of the International Law Commission at the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly commence on 28 October 2002.

RESOLUTION 56/83

Adopted at the 85th plenary meeting, on 12 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/589 and Corr.1, para. 10)[33]

56/83. Responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts

The General Assembly,

Having considered chapter IV of the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-third session,[34] which contains the draft articles on responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts,

Noting that the International Law Commission decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it should take note of the draft articles on responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts in a resolution and annex the draft articles to that resolution, and that it should consider at a later stage, in the light of the importance of the topic, the possibility of convening an international conference of plenipotentiaries to examine the draft articles with a view to concluding a convention on the topic,[35]

Emphasizing the continuing importance of the codification and progressive development of international law, as referred to in Article 13, paragraph 1 *a*, of the Charter of the United Nations,

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[33] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the representative of Ecuador.

[34] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 10* and corrigendum (A/56/10 and Corr.1).

[35] Ibid., paras. 72 and 73.

Noting that the subject of responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts is of major importance in the relations of States,

1. *Welcomes* the conclusion of the work of the International Law Commission on responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts and its adoption of the draft articles and a detailed commentary on the subject;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the International Law Commission for its continuing contribution to the codification and progressive development of international law;

3. *Takes note* of the articles on responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts, presented by the International Law Commission, the text of which is annexed to the present resolution, and commends them to the attention of Governments without prejudice to the question of their future adoption or other appropriate action;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session an item entitled "Responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts".

Annex

Responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts

PART ONE
THE INTERNATIONALLY WRONGFUL ACT OF A STATE

Chapter I
General principles

Article 1
Responsibility of a State for its internationally wrongful acts

Every internationally wrongful act of a State entails the international responsibility of that State.

Article 2
Elements of an internationally wrongful act of a State

There is an internationally wrongful act of a State when conduct consisting of an action or omission:

(*a*) Is attributable to the State under international law; and

(*b*) Constitutes a breach of an international obligation of the State.

Article 3
Characterization of an act of a State as internationally wrongful

The characterization of an act of a State as internationally wrongful is governed by international law. Such characterization is not affected by the characterization of the same act as lawful by internal law.

Chapter II
Attribution of conduct to a State

Article 4
Conduct of organs of a State

1. The conduct of any State organ shall be considered an act of that State under international law, whether the organ exercises legislative, executive, judicial or any other functions, whatever position it holds in the organization of the State, and whatever its character as an organ of the central Government or of a territorial unit of the State.

2. An organ includes any person or entity which has that status in accordance with the internal law of the State.

Article 5
Conduct of persons or entities exercising elements of governmental authority

The conduct of a person or entity which is not an organ of the State under article 4 but which is empowered by the law of that State to exercise elements of the governmental authority shall be considered an act of the State under international law, provided the person or entity is acting in that capacity in the particular instance.

Article 6
Conduct of organs placed at the disposal of a State by another State

The conduct of an organ placed at the disposal of a State by another State shall be considered an act of the former State under international law if the organ is acting in the exercise of elements of the governmental authority of the State at whose disposal it is placed.

Article 7
Excess of authority or contravention of instructions

The conduct of an organ of a State or of a person or entity empowered to exercise elements of the governmental authority shall be considered an act of the State under international law if the organ, person or entity acts in that capacity, even if it exceeds its authority or contravenes instructions.

Article 8
Conduct directed or controlled by a State

The conduct of a person or group of persons shall be considered an act of a State under international law if the person or group of persons is in fact acting on the instructions of, or under the direction or control of, that State in carrying out the conduct.

Article 9

Conduct carried out in the absence or default of the official authorities

The conduct of a person or group of persons shall be considered an act of a State under international law if the person or group of persons is in fact exercising elements of the governmental authority in the absence or default of the official authorities and in circumstances such as to call for the exercise of those elements of authority.

Article 10

Conduct of an insurrectional or other movement

1. The conduct of an insurrectional movement which becomes the new Government of a State shall be considered an act of that State under international law.

2. The conduct of a movement, insurrectional or other, which succeeds in establishing a new State in part of the territory of a pre-existing State or in a territory under its administration shall be considered an act of the new State under international law.

3. This article is without prejudice to the attribution to a State of any conduct, however related to that of the movement concerned, which is to be considered an act of that State by virtue of articles 4 to 9.

Article 11

Conduct acknowledged and adopted by a State as its own

Conduct which is not attributable to a State under the preceding articles shall nevertheless be considered an act of that State under international law if and to the extent that the State acknowledges and adopts the conduct in question as its own.

Chapter III
Breach of an international obligation

Article 12

Existence of a breach of an international obligation

There is a breach of an international obligation by a State when an act of that State is not in conformity with what is required of it by that obligation, regardless of its origin or character.

Article 13

International obligation in force for a State

An act of a State does not constitute a breach of an international obligation unless the State is bound by the obligation in question at the time the act occurs.

Article 14

Extension in time of the breach of an international obligation

1. The breach of an international obligation by an act of a State not having a continuing character occurs at the moment when the act is performed, even if its effects continue.

2. The breach of an international obligation by an act of a State having a continuing character extends over the entire period during which the act continues and remains not in conformity with the international obligation.

3. The breach of an international obligation requiring a State to prevent a given event occurs when the event occurs and extends over the entire period during which the event continues and remains not in conformity with that obligation.

Article 15

Breach consisting of a composite act

1. The breach of an international obligation by a State through a series of actions or omissions defined in aggregate as wrongful occurs when the action or omission occurs which, taken with the other actions or omissions, is sufficient to constitute the wrongful act.

2. In such a case, the breach extends over the entire period starting with the first of the actions or omissions of the series and lasts for as long as these actions or omissions are repeated and remain not in conformity with the international obligation.

Chapter IV
Responsibility of a State in connection with the act of another State

Article 16

Aid or assistance in the commission of an internationally wrongful act

A State which aids or assists another State in the commission of an internationally wrongful act by the latter is internationally responsible for doing so if:

(*a*) That State does so with knowledge of the circumstances of the internationally wrongful act; and

(*b*) The act would be internationally wrongful if committed by that State.

Article 17

Direction and control exercised over the commission of an internationally wrongful act

A State which directs and controls another State in the commission of an internationally wrongful act by the latter is internationally responsible for that act if:

(*a*) That State does so with knowledge of the circumstances of the internationally wrongful act; and (*b*) The act would be internationally wrongful if committed by that State.

Article 18
Coercion of another State

A State which coerces another State to commit an act is internationally responsible for that act if:

(*a*) The act would, but for the coercion, be an internationally wrongful act of the coerced State; and

(*b*) The coercing State does so with knowledge of the circumstances of the act.

Article 19
Effect of this chapter

This chapter is without prejudice to the international responsibility, under other provisions of these articles, of the State which commits the act in question, or of any other State.

Chapter V
Circumstances precluding wrongfulness

Article 20
Consent

Valid consent by a State to the commission of a given act by another State precludes the wrongfulness of that act in relation to the former State to the extent that the act remains within the limits of that consent.

Article 21
Self-defence

The wrongfulness of an act of a State is precluded if the act constitutes a lawful measure of self-defence taken in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations.

Article 22
Countermeasures in respect of an internationally wrongful act

The wrongfulness of an act of a State not in conformity with an international obligation towards another State is precluded if and to the extent that the act constitutes a countermeasure taken against the latter State in accordance with chapter II of part three.

Article 23
Force majeure

1. The wrongfulness of an act of a State not in conformity with an international obligation of that State is precluded if the act is due to force majeure, that is the occurrence of an irresistible force or of an unforeseen event, beyond the control of the State, making it materially impossible in the circumstances to perform the obligation.

2. Paragraph 1 does not apply if:

(*a*) The situation of force majeure is due, either alone or in combination with other factors, to the conduct of the State invoking it; or

(*b*) The State has assumed the risk of that situation occurring.

Article 24
Distress

1. The wrongfulness of an act of a State not in conformity with an international obligation of that State is precluded if the author of the act in question has no other reasonable way, in a situation of distress, of saving the author's life or the lives of other persons entrusted to the author's care.

2. Paragraph 1 does not apply if:

(*a*) The situation of distress is due, either alone or in combination with other factors, to the conduct of the State invoking it; or

(*b*) The act in question is likely to create a comparable or greater peril.

Article 25
Necessity

1. Necessity may not be invoked by a State as a ground for precluding the wrongfulness of an act not in conformity with an international obligation of that State unless the act:

(*a*) Is the only way for the State to safeguard an essential interest against a grave and imminent peril; and

(*b*) Does not seriously impair an essential interest of the State or States towards which the obligation exists, or of the international community as a whole.

2. In any case, necessity may not be invoked by a State as a ground for precluding wrongfulness if:

(*a*) The international obligation in question excludes the possibility of invoking necessity; or

(*b*) The State has contributed to the situation of necessity.

Article 26
Compliance with peremptory norms

Nothing in this chapter precludes the wrongfulness of any act of a State which is not in conformity with an obligation arising under a peremptory norm of general international law.

Article 27
Consequences of invoking a circumstance precluding wrongfulness

The invocation of a circumstance precluding wrongfulness in accordance with this chapter is without prejudice to:

(*a*) Compliance with the obligation in question, if and to the extent that the circumstance precluding wrongfulness no longer exists;

(*b*) The question of compensation for any material loss caused by the act in question.

PART TWO
CONTENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY OF A STATE

Chapter I
General principles

Article 28
Legal consequences of an internationally wrongful act

The international responsibility of a State which is entailed by an internationally wrongful act in accordance with the provisions of part one involves legal consequences as set out in this part.

Article 29
Continued duty of performance

The legal consequences of an internationally wrongful act under this part do not affect the continued duty of the responsible State to perform the obligation breached.

Article 30
Cessation and non-repetition

The State responsible for the internationally wrongful act is under an obligation:

(*a*) To cease that act, if it is continuing;

(*b*) To offer appropriate assurances and guarantees of non-repetition, if circumstances so require.

Article 31
Reparation

1. The responsible State is under an obligation to make full reparation for the injury caused by the internationally wrongful act.

2. Injury includes any damage, whether material or moral, caused by the internationally wrongful act of a State.

Article 32
Irrelevance of internal law

The responsible State may not rely on the provisions of its internal law as justification for failure to comply with its obligations under this part.

Article 33
Scope of international obligations set out in this part

1. The obligations of the responsible State set out in this part may be owed to another State, to several States, or to the international community as a whole, depending in particular on the character and content of the international obligation and on the circumstances of the breach.

2. This part is without prejudice to any right, arising from the international responsibility of a State, which may accrue directly to any person or entity other than a State.

Chapter II
Reparation for injury

Article 34
Forms of reparation

Full reparation for the injury caused by the internationally wrongful act shall take the form of restitution, compensation and satisfaction, either singly or in combination, in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

Article 35
Restitution

A State responsible for an internationally wrongful act is under an obligation to make restitution, that is, to re-establish the situation which existed before the wrongful act was committed, provided and to the extent that restitution:

(*a*) Is not materially impossible;

(*b*) Does not involve a burden out of all proportion to the benefit deriving from restitution instead of compensation.

Article 36
Compensation

1. The State responsible for an internationally wrongful act is under an obligation to compensate for the damage caused thereby, insofar as such damage is not made good by restitution.

2. The compensation shall cover any financially assessable damage including loss of profits insofar as it is established.

Article 37
Satisfaction

1. The State responsible for an internationally wrongful act is under an obligation to give satisfaction for the injury caused by that act insofar as it cannot be made good by restitution or compensation.

2. Satisfaction may consist in an acknowledgement of the breach, an expression of regret, a formal apology or another appropriate modality.

3. Satisfaction shall not be out of proportion to the injury and may not take a form humiliating to the responsible State.

Article 38
Interest

1. Interest on any principal sum due under this chapter shall be payable when necessary in order to ensure full reparation.

The interest rate and mode of calculation shall be set so as to achieve that result.

2. Interest runs from the date when the principal sum should have been paid until the date the obligation to pay is fulfilled.

Article 39
Contribution to the injury

In the determination of reparation, account shall be taken of the contribution to the injury by wilful or negligent action or omission of the injured State or any person or entity in relation to whom reparation is sought.

Chapter III
Serious breaches of obligations under peremptory norms of general international law

Article 40
Application of this chapter

1. This chapter applies to the international responsibility which is entailed by a serious breach by a State of an obligation arising under a peremptory norm of general international law.

2. A breach of such an obligation is serious if it involves a gross or systematic failure by the responsible State to fulfil the obligation.

Article 41
Particular consequences of a serious breach of an obligation under this chapter

1. States shall cooperate to bring to an end through lawful means any serious breach within the meaning of article 40.

2. No State shall recognize as lawful a situation created by a serious breach within the meaning of article 40, nor render aid or assistance in maintaining that situation.

3. This article is without prejudice to the other consequences referred to in this part and to such further consequences that a breach to which this chapter applies may entail under international law.

PART THREE
THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY OF A STATE

Chapter I
Invocation of the responsibility of a State

Article 42
Invocation of responsibility by an injured State

A State is entitled as an injured State to invoke the responsibility of another State if the obligation breached is owed to:

(*a*) That State individually; or

(*b*) A group of States including that State, or the international community as a whole, and the breach of the obligation:

(i) Specifically affects that State; or

(ii) Is of such a character as radically to change the position of all the other States to which the obligation is owed with respect to the further performance of the obligation.

Article 43
Notice of claim by an injured State

1. An injured State which invokes the responsibility of another State shall give notice of its claim to that State.

2. The injured State may specify in particular:

(*a*) The conduct that the responsible State should take in order to cease the wrongful act, if it is continuing;

(*b*) What form reparation should take in accordance with the provisions of part two.

Article 44
Admissibility of claims

The responsibility of a State may not be invoked if:

(*a*) The claim is not brought in accordance with any applicable rule relating to the nationality of claims;

(*b*) The claim is one to which the rule of exhaustion of local remedies applies and any available and effective local remedy has not been exhausted.

Article 45
Loss of the right to invoke responsibility

The responsibility of a State may not be invoked if:

(*a*) The injured State has validly waived the claim;

(*b*) The injured State is to be considered as having, by reason of its conduct, validly acquiesced in the lapse of the claim.

Article 46
Plurality of injured States

Where several States are injured by the same internationally wrongful act, each injured State may separately invoke the responsibility of the State which has committed the internationally wrongful act.

Article 47
Plurality of responsible States

1. Where several States are responsible for the same internationally wrongful act, the responsibility of each State may be invoked in relation to that act.

2. Paragraph 1:

(*a*) Does not permit any injured State to recover, by way of compensation, more than the damage it has suffered;

(*b*) Is without prejudice to any right of recourse against the other responsible States.

Article 48
Invocation of responsibility by a State other than an injured State

1. Any State other than an injured State is entitled to invoke the responsibility of another State in accordance with paragraph 2 if:

(*a*) The obligation breached is owed to a group of States including that State, and is established for the protection of a collective interest of the group; or

(*b*) The obligation breached is owed to the international community as a whole.

2. Any State entitled to invoke responsibility under paragraph 1 may claim from the responsible State:

(*a*) Cessation of the internationally wrongful act, and assurances and guarantees of non-repetition in accordance with article 30; and

(*b*) Performance of the obligation of reparation in accordance with the preceding articles, in the interest of the injured State or of the beneficiaries of the obligation breached.

3. The requirements for the invocation of responsibility by an injured State under articles 43, 44 and 45 apply to an invocation of responsibility by a State entitled to do so under paragraph 1.

Chapter II
Countermeasures

Article 49
Object and limits of countermeasures

1. An injured State may only take countermeasures against a State which is responsible for an internationally wrongful act in order to induce that State to comply with its obligations under part two.

2. Countermeasures are limited to the non-performance for the time being of international obligations of the State taking the measures towards the responsible State.

3. Countermeasures shall, as far as possible, be taken in such a way as to permit the resumption of performance of the obligations in question.

Article 50
Obligations not affected by countermeasures

1. Countermeasures shall not affect:

(*a*) The obligation to refrain from the threat or use of force as embodied in the Charter of the United Nations;

(*b*) Obligations for the protection of fundamental human rights;

(*c*) Obligations of a humanitarian character prohibiting reprisals;

(*d*) Other obligations under peremptory norms of general international law.

2. A State taking countermeasures is not relieved from fulfilling its obligations:

(*a*) Under any dispute settlement procedure applicable between it and the responsible State;

(*b*) To respect the inviolability of diplomatic or consular agents, premises, archives and documents.

Article 51
Proportionality

Countermeasures must be commensurate with the injury suffered, taking into account the gravity of the internationally wrongful act and the rights in question.

Article 52
Conditions relating to resort to countermeasures

1. Before taking countermeasures, an injured State shall:

(*a*) Call upon the responsible State, in accordance with article 43, to fulfil its obligations under part two;

(*b*) Notify the responsible State of any decision to take countermeasures and offer to negotiate with that State.

2. Notwithstanding paragraph 1 (*b*), the injured State may take such urgent countermeasures as are necessary to preserve its rights.

3. Countermeasures may not be taken, and if already taken must be suspended without undue delay if:

(*a*) The internationally wrongful act has ceased; and

(*b*) The dispute is pending before a court or tribunal which has the authority to make decisions binding on the parties.

4. Paragraph 3 does not apply if the responsible State fails to implement the dispute settlement procedures in good faith.

Article 53
Termination of countermeasures

Countermeasures shall be terminated as soon as the responsible State has complied with its obligations under part two in relation to the internationally wrongful act.

Article 54
Measures taken by States other than an injured State

This chapter does not prejudice the right of any State, entitled under article 48, paragraph 1, to invoke the responsibility of another State, to take lawful measures against that State to ensure cessation of the breach and reparation in the interest of the injured State or of the beneficiaries of the obligation breached.

PART FOUR
GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 55
Lex specialis

These articles do not apply where and to the extent that the conditions for the existence of an internationally wrongful act or the content or implementation of the international responsibility of a State are governed by special rules of international law.

Article 56
Questions of State responsibility not regulated by these articles

The applicable rules of international law continue to govern questions concerning the responsibility of a State for an internationally wrongful act to the extent that they are not regulated by these articles.

Article 57
Responsibility of an international organization

These articles are without prejudice to any question of the responsibility under international law of an international organization, or of any State for the conduct of an international organization.

Article 58
Individual responsibility

These articles are without prejudice to any question of the individual responsibility under international law of any person acting on behalf of a State.

Article 59
Charter of the United Nations

These articles are without prejudice to the Charter of the United Nations.

RESOLUTION 56/84

Adopted at the 85th plenary meeting, on 12 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/590 and Corr.1, para. 8)[36]

56/84. Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country,[37]

Expressing deep condolences to the families of the victims of the heinous acts of terrorism of 11 September 2001, as well as solidarity with the Government and people of the host country,

Recalling Article 105 of the Charter of the United Nations, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[38] the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations[39] and the responsibilities of the host country,

Recalling also that, in accordance with paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 2819 (XXVI) of 15 December 1971, the Committee should consider, and advise the host country on, issues arising in connection with the implementation of the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations,

Recognizing that effective measures should continue to be taken by the competent authorities of the host country, in particular to prevent any acts violating the security of missions and the safety of their personnel,

1. *Endorses* the recommendations and conclusions of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country contained in paragraph 37 of its report;[37]

2. *Considers* that the maintenance of appropriate conditions for the normal work of the delegations and the missions accredited to the United Nations and the observance of their privileges and immunities, which is an issue of great importance to them, are in the interest of the United Nations and all Member States, and requests the host country to continue to take all measures necessary to prevent any interference with the functioning of missions;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts made by the host country, and hopes that the issues raised at the meetings of the Committee will continue to be resolved in a spirit of cooperation and in accordance with international law;

4. *Notes* that during the reporting period the travel controls previously imposed by the host country on staff of certain missions and staff members of the Secretariat of certain nationalities remained in effect, and requests the host country to

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[36] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire and Cyprus.

[37] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 26* (A/56/26).

[38] Resolution 22 A (I).

[39] See resolution 169 (II).

consider removing such travel controls, and in this regard notes the positions of affected States, of the Secretary-General and of the host country;

5. *Notes also* that the Committee anticipates that the host country will continue to ensure the issuance, in a timely manner, of entry visas to representatives of Member States, pursuant to article IV, section 11, of the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations,[39] inter alia, for the purpose of their attending official United Nations meetings;

6. *Requests* the host country to continue to take steps to resolve the problem relating to the parking of diplomatic vehicles in a fair, balanced and non-discriminatory way, with a view to responding to the growing needs of the diplomatic community, and to continue to consult with the Committee on this important issue;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to remain actively engaged in all aspects of the relations of the United Nations with the host country;

8. *Requests* the Committee to continue its work in conformity with General Assembly resolution 2819 (XXVI);

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country".

RESOLUTION 56/85

Adopted at the 85th plenary meeting, on 12 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/591, para. 10)[40]

56/85. Establishment of the International Criminal Court

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/33 of 25 November 1992, 48/31 of 9 December 1993, 49/53 of 9 December 1994, 50/46 of 11 December 1995, 51/207 of 17 December 1996, 52/160 of 15 December 1997, 53/105 of 8 December 1998, 54/105 of 9 December 1999 and 55/155 of 12 December 2000,

Noting that the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court was adopted on 17 July 1998,[41] and taking note of the Final Act of the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court done at Rome on 17 July 1998,[42]

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted at the Millennium Assembly,[43] in which heads of State and Government stressed the importance of the International Criminal Court,

Noting in particular that the Conference decided to establish a Preparatory Commission for the Court,[44] and that the Commission held two sessions in 2001, from 26 February to 9 March and from 24 September to 5 October,

Bearing in mind the mandate of the Preparatory Commission, as set out in resolution F adopted by the Conference,[44] with regard to the preparation of the proposals for practical arrangements for the establishment and coming into operation of the Court,

Noting, with regard to the work of the Preparatory Commission and related working groups, the adoption by the Commission on 5 October 2001 of the report on its sixth to eighth sessions,[45] containing the draft texts of the Relationship Agreement between the Court and the United Nations, the Financial Regulations, the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the Court and the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly of States Parties,

Noting also the progress made in regard to the necessary arrangements for the commencement of the functions of the International Criminal Court in order to ensure its effective operation, and taking note in particular of the statement of the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the Preparatory Commission at its eighth session, on the preparatory work that the Government of the Netherlands was undertaking for the establishment of the Court,[46]

Recognizing the continuing need for making available adequate resources and secretariat services to the Preparatory Commission in order to enable it to discharge its functions efficiently and expeditiously,

Noting in particular that one hundred and thirty-nine States have signed the Rome Statute and that the number of States that have deposited their instruments of ratification has grown significantly,

Taking into consideration the probability that the first meeting of the Assembly of States Parties will be held by September 2002, as well as article 112, paragraph 1, of the Rome Statute,

1. *Reiterates* the historic significance of the adoption of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;[41]

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[40] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the representative of Netherlands.

[41] A/CONF.183/9.

[42] A/CONF.183/10.

[43] See resolution 55/2.

[44] See A/CONF.183/10, annex I.

[45] PCNICC/2001/1 and Add.1–4.

[46] PCNICC/2001/INF/3.

2. *Calls upon* all States that have signed the Rome Statute to consider ratifying or acceding to it, as appropriate, without delay, and encourages efforts aimed at promoting awareness of the results of the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court, held in Rome from 15 June to 17 July 1998, and of the provisions of the Statute;

3. *Welcomes* the important work accomplished by the Preparatory Commission for the International Criminal Court in the completion of a great number of parts of its mandate under resolution F adopted by the Conference,[44] and notes in this respect in particular the importance of the growing participation in the work of the working group on the crime of aggression;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to reconvene the Preparatory Commission, in accordance with resolution F, from 8 to 19 April and from 1 to 12 July 2002, to continue to carry out the mandate of that resolution and, in that connection, to discuss ways to enhance the effectiveness and acceptance of the Court;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to make available to the Preparatory Commission secretariat services, including the preparation of working documents if so requested by the Commission, to enable it to perform its functions;

6. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to invite, as observers to the Preparatory Commission, representatives of organizations and other entities that have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly, pursuant to its relevant resolutions,[47] to participate in the capacity of observers in its sessions and work, and also to invite as observers to the Commission representatives of interested regional intergovernmental organizations and other interested international bodies, including the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 and the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States, between 1 January 1994 and 31 December 1994;

7. *Notes* that non-governmental organizations may participate in the work of the Preparatory Commission by attending its plenary and its other open meetings, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Commission, receiving copies of the official documents and making available their materials to delegates;

8. *Encourages* States to make voluntary contributions to the trust funds established pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 51/207 and 52/160, the mandates of which were expanded pursuant to Assembly resolution 53/105, towards meeting the costs of the participation in the work of the Preparatory Commission of the least developed countries and of those developing countries not covered by the trust fund established pursuant to resolution 51/207;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to undertake the preparations necessary to convene, in accordance with article 112, paragraph 1, of the Rome Statute, the meeting of the Assembly of States Parties to be held at United Nations Headquarters upon the entry into force of the Statute in accordance with article 126, paragraph 1, of the Statute;

10. *Decides* that expenses that may accrue to the United Nations as a result of the implementation of the request contained in paragraph 9 above, as well as expenses resulting from the provision of facilities and services for the meeting of the Assembly of States Parties and any consequent follow-up shall be paid in advance to the Organization, for which an appropriate mechanism will be set up in the near future;

11. *Notes* that the United Nations and the Secretary-General may participate, without the right to vote, in the work of the Assembly of States Parties;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite, as observers to the meeting of the Assembly of States Parties, representatives of intergovernmental organizations and other entities that have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly, pursuant to its relevant resolutions,[47] to participate in the capacity of observers in its sessions and work, and also to invite as observers to the Assembly representatives of interested regional intergovernmental organizations and other international bodies invited to the Rome Conference or accredited to the Preparatory Commission for the International Criminal Court;

13. *Notes* that non-governmental organizations invited to the Rome Conference, registered to the Preparatory Commission for the International Criminal Court or having consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations whose activities are relevant to the activities of the Court may participate in the work of the Assembly of States Parties in accordance with agreed rules;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Establishment of the International Criminal Court".

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[47] Resolutions 253 (III), 477 (V), 2011 (XX), 3208 (XXIX), 3237 (XXIX), 3369 (XXX), 31/3, 33/18, 35/2, 35/3, 36/4, 42/10, 43/6, 44/6, 45/6, 46/8, 47/4, 48/2, 48/3, 48/4, 48/5, 48/237, 48/265, 49/1, 49/2, 50/2, 51/1, 51/6, 51/204, 52/6, 53/5, 53/6, 53/216, 54/5, 54/10, 54/195, 55/160 and 55/161.

RESOLUTION 56/86

Adopted at the 85th plenary meeting, on 12 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/592, para. 13)[48]

56/86. Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3499 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, by which it established the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization, and its relevant resolutions adopted at subsequent sessions,

Recalling also its resolution 47/233 of 17 August 1993 on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly,

Recalling further its resolution 47/62 of 11 December 1992 on the question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council,

Taking note of the report of the Open-ended Working Group on the Question of Equitable Representation on and Increase in the Membership of the Security Council and Other Matters Related to the Security Council,[49]

Recalling the elements relevant to the work of the Special Committee contained in its resolution 47/120 B of 20 September 1993,

Recalling also its resolution 51/241 of 31 July 1997 on the strengthening of the United Nations system and its resolution 51/242 of 15 September 1997, entitled "Supplement to an Agenda for Peace", by which it adopted the texts on coordination and the question of sanctions imposed by the United Nations, which are annexed to that resolution,

Recalling further that the International Court of Justice is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, and reaffirming its authority and independence,

Considering the desirability of finding practical ways and means to strengthen the Court, taking into consideration, in particular, the needs resulting from its increased workload,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs* and the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*,[50]

Recalling its resolution 55/156 of 12 December 2000,

Having considered the report of the Special Committee on the work of its session held in 2001,[51]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization;[51]

2. *Decides* that the Special Committee shall hold its next session from 18 to 28 March 2002;

3. *Requests* the Special Committee, at its session in 2002, in accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 50/52 of 11 December 1995:

(*a*) To continue its consideration of all proposals concerning the question of the maintenance of international peace and security in all its aspects in order to strengthen the role of the United Nations and, in this context, to consider other proposals relating to the maintenance of international peace and security already submitted or which may be submitted to the Special Committee at its session in 2002;

(*b*) To continue to consider on a priority basis the question of the implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter by commencing a substantive debate on all of the related reports of the Secretary-General,[52] the proposals submitted on this subject, taking into consideration the debate on the question held by the Sixth Committee at the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly and the text on the question of sanctions imposed by the United Nations contained in annex II to Assembly resolution 51/242, and also the implementation of the provisions of Assembly resolutions 50/51 of 11 December 1995, 51/208 of 17 December 1996, 52/162 of 15 December 1997, 53/107 of 8 December 1998, 54/107 of 9 December 1999 and 55/157 of 12 December 2000;

(*c*) To continue its work on the question of the peaceful settlement of disputes between States and, in this context, to continue its consideration of proposals relating thereto, including the proposal on the establishment of a dispute settlement service offering or responding with its services early in disputes and those proposals relating to the enhancement of the role of the International Court of Justice, with a view to completing, if possible, its consideration of these proposals;

(*d*) To continue to consider proposals concerning the Trusteeship Council in the light of the report of the Secretary-General submitted in accordance with General Assembly resolution 50/55 of 11 December 1995,[53] the report of the

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[48] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Egypt.

[49] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 47* (A/55/47).

[50] A/56/330.

[51] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/56/33).

[52] A/48/573-S/26705, A/49/356, A/50/60-S/1995/1, A/50/361, A/50/423, A/51/317, A/52/308, A/53/312, A/54/383 and Add.1, A/55/295 and Add.1 and A/56/303.

[53] A/50/1011.

Secretary-General entitled "Renewing the United Nations: a programme for reform"[54] and the views expressed by States on this subject at previous sessions of the General Assembly;

(*e*) To continue to consider, on a priority basis, ways and means of improving its working methods and enhancing its efficiency with a view to identifying widely acceptable measures for future implementation;

4. *Takes note* of paragraph 47 of the report of the Secretary-General,[50] commends the Secretary-General for his continued efforts to reduce the backlog in the publication of the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs*, and endorses the efforts of the Secretary-General to eliminate the backlog in the publication of the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*;

5. *Invites* the Special Committee at its session in 2002 to continue to identify new subjects for consideration in its future work with a view to contributing to the revitalization of the work of the United Nations;

6. *Takes note* of the readiness of the Special Committee, in the context of its consideration of the subject of assistance to working groups on the revitalization of the work of the United Nations and coordination between the Special Committee and other working groups dealing with the reform of the Organization, to provide, within its mandate, such assistance as may be sought at the request of other subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly in relation to any issues before them;

7. *Requests* the Special Committee to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization".

RESOLUTION 56/87

Adopted at the 85th plenary meeting, on 12 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/592, para. 13)[55]

56/87. Implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions

The General Assembly,

Concerned about the special economic problems confronting certain States arising from the carrying out of preventive or enforcement measures taken by the Security Council against other States, and taking into account the obligation of Members of the United Nations under Article 49 of the Charter of the United Nations to join in affording mutual assistance in carrying out the measures decided upon by the Security Council,

Recalling the right of third States confronted with special economic problems of that nature to consult the Security Council with regard to a solution of those problems, in accordance with Article 50 of the Charter,

Recognizing the desirability of the consideration of further appropriate procedures for consultations to deal in a more effective manner with the problems referred to in Article 50 of the Charter,

Recalling:

(*a*) The report of the Secretary-General entitled "An Agenda for Peace",[56] in particular paragraph 41 thereof,

(*b*) Its resolution 47/120 A of 18 December 1992 entitled "An Agenda for Peace: preventive diplomacy and related matters", its resolution 47/120 B of 20 September 1993, entitled "An Agenda for Peace", in particular section IV thereof, entitled "Special economic problems arising from the implementation of preventive or enforcement measures", and its resolution 51/242 of 15 September 1997, entitled "Supplement to an Agenda for Peace", in particular annex II thereto, entitled "Question of sanctions imposed by the United Nations",

(*c*) The position paper of the Secretary-General entitled "Supplement to an Agenda for Peace",[57]

(*d*) The statement by the President of the Security Council of 22 February 1995,[58]

(*e*) The report of the Secretary-General[59] prepared pursuant to the statement by the President of the Security Council[60] regarding the question of special economic problems of States as a result of sanctions imposed under Chapter VII of the Charter,

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[54] A/51/950 and Add.1–7.

[55] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, China, Colombia, Egypt, India, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Uganda and Ukraine.

[56] A/47/277-S/24111.

[57] A/50/60-S/1995/1.

[58] S/PRST/1995/9; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1995*.

[59] A/48/573-S/26705.

[60] S/25036; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1992*.

(*f*) The annual overview reports of the Administrative Committee on Coordination for the period from 1992 to 2000,[61] in particular the sections therein on assistance to countries invoking Article 50 of the Charter,

(*g*) The reports of the Secretary-General on economic assistance to States affected by the implementation of the Security Council resolutions imposing sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia[62] and General Assembly resolutions 48/210 of 21 December 1993, 49/21 A of 2 December 1994, 50/58 E of 12 December 1995, 51/30 A of 5 December 1996, 52/169 H of 16 December 1997, 54/96 G of 15 December 1999 and 55/170 of 14 December 2000,

(*h*) The reports of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization on the work of its sessions held in the years 1994 to 2001,[63]

(*i*) The reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the provisions of the Charter related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter,[64]

(*j*) The report of the Secretary-General to the Millennium Assembly of the United Nations,[65] in particular section IV.E thereof, entitled "Targeting sanctions",

(*k*) The United Nations Millennium Declaration,[66] in particular paragraph 9 thereof,

(*l*) The report of the Secretary-General entitled "Road map towards implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration",[67] in particular paragraphs 56 to 61 thereof,

Taking note of the most recent report of the Secretary-General, submitted in accordance with General Assembly resolution 55/157 of 12 December 2000,[68]

Taking note also of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the in-depth evaluation of United Nations programmes relating to global development trends, issues and policies and global approaches to social and microeconomic issues and policies, and the corresponding subprogrammes in the regional commissions,[69] in particular recommendation 3 contained therein, as approved by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its fortieth session,[70]

Recalling that the question of assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions has been addressed recently in several forums, including the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council and their subsidiary organs,

Recalling also the measures taken by the Security Council, in accordance with the statement by the President of the Security Council of 16 December 1994,[71] that, as part of the effort of the Council to improve the flow of information and the exchange of ideas between members of the Council and other States Members of the United Nations, there should be increased recourse to open meetings, in particular at an early stage in its consideration of a subject,

Recalling further the measures taken by the Security Council in accordance with the note by the President of the Security Council of 29 January 1999[72] aimed at improving the work of the sanctions committees, including increasing the effectiveness and transparency of those committees,

Stressing that, in the formulation of sanctions regimes, due account should be taken of the potential effects of sanctions on third States,

Stressing also, in this context, the powers of the Security Council under Chapter VII of the Charter and the primary responsibility of the Council under Article 24 of the Charter for the maintenance of international peace and security in order to ensure prompt and effective action by the United Nations,

Recalling that, under Article 31 of the Charter, any Member of the United Nations that is not a member of the Security Council may participate, without vote, in the discussion of any question brought before the Council whenever the latter considers that the interests of that Member are specially affected,

Recognizing that the imposition of sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter has been causing special economic problems in third States and that it is necessary to intensify efforts to address those problems effectively,

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[61] E/1993/81, E/1994/19, E/1995/21, E/1996/18 and Add.1, E/1997/54 and Corr.1, E/1998/21, E/1999/48, E/2000/53 and E/2001/55.

[62] A/49/356, A/50/423, A/51/356, A/52/535, A/54/534, A/55/620 and Corr.1 and A/56/361.

[63] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/49/33); ibid., *Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/50/33); ibid., *Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/51/33); ibid., *Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 33* and corrigendum (A/52/33 and Corr.1); ibid., *Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/53/33); ibid., *Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 33* and corrigendum (A/54/33 and Corr.1); ibid., *Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/55/33) and ibid., *Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/56/33).

[64] A/50/361, A/51/317, A/52/308, A/53/312, A/54/383, A/55/295 and Add.1 and A/56/303.

[65] A/54/2000.

[66] See resolution 55/2.

[67] A/56/326.

[68] A/56/303.

[69] E/AC.51/2000/2.

[70] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 16* and corrigendum (A/55/16 and Corr.1), chap. II.C.1, para. 243.

[71] See S/PRST/1994/81; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1994*.

[72] S/1999/92; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1999*.

Taking into consideration the views of third States which could be affected by the imposition of sanctions,

Recognizing that assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions would further contribute to an effective and comprehensive approach by the international community to sanctions imposed by the Security Council,

Recognizing also that the international community at large and, in particular, international institutions involved in providing economic and financial assistance should continue to take into account and address in a more effective manner the special economic problems of affected third States arising from the carrying out of preventive or enforcement measures taken by the Security Council under Chapter VII of the Charter, in view of their magnitude and of the adverse impact on the economies of those States,

Recalling the provisions of its resolutions 50/51 of 11 December 1995, 51/208 of 17 December 1996, 52/162 of 15 December 1997, 53/107 of 8 December 1998, 54/107 of 9 December 1999 and 55/157 of 12 December 2000,

1. *Renews its invitation* to the Security Council to consider the establishment of further mechanisms or procedures, as appropriate, for consultations as early as possible under Article 50 of the Charter of the United Nations with third States which are or may be confronted with special economic problems arising from the carrying out of preventive or enforcement measures imposed by the Council under Chapter VII of the Charter, with regard to a solution of those problems, including appropriate ways and means for increasing the effectiveness of its methods and procedures applied in the consideration of requests by the affected States for assistance;

2. *Welcomes* the measures taken by the Security Council since the adoption of General Assembly resolution 50/51, most recently the note by the President of the Security Council of 17 April 2000,[73] whereby the members of the Security Council decided to establish an informal working group of the Council to develop general recommendations on how to improve the effectiveness of United Nations sanctions, looks forward to the adoption of the Chairman's proposed outcome of the working group, in particular those provisions thereof regarding the issues of the unintended impact of sanctions and assistance to States in implementing sanctions, and strongly recommends that the Council continue its efforts to enhance further the effectiveness and transparency of the sanctions committees, to streamline their working procedures and to facilitate access to them by representatives of States that find themselves confronted with special economic problems arising from the carrying out of sanctions;

3. *Invites* the Security Council, its sanctions committees and the Secretariat to continue to ensure, as appropriate, that:

(*a*) Both pre-assessment reports and ongoing assessment reports include as part of their analysis the likely and actual unintended impact of the sanctions on third States and recommend ways in which the negative impact of sanctions can be mitigated;

(*b*) Sanctions committees provide opportunities for third States affected by sanctions to brief them on the unintended impact of sanctions they are experiencing and on assistance needed by them to mitigate the negative impact of sanctions;

(*c*) The Secretariat continues to provide, upon request, advice and information to third States to help them to pursue means to mitigate the unintended impact of sanctions, for example, on invoking Article 50 of the Charter for consultation with the Security Council;

(*d*) Where economic sanctions have had severe effects on third States, the Security Council is able to request the Secretary-General to consider appointing a special representative or dispatching, as necessary, fact-finding missions on the ground to undertake necessary assessments and to identify, as appropriate, possible means of assistance;

(*e*) The Security Council is able, in the context of situations referred to in subparagraph (*d*) above, to consider establishing working groups to consider such situations;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to pursue the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 50/51, 51/208, 52/162, 53/107, 54/107 and 55/157 and to ensure that the competent units within the Secretariat develop the adequate capacity and appropriate modalities, technical procedures and guidelines to continue, on a regular basis, to collate and coordinate information about international assistance available to third States affected by the implementation of sanctions, to continue developing a possible methodology for assessing the adverse consequences actually incurred by third States and to explore innovative and practical measures of assistance to the affected third States;

5. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General containing a summary of the deliberations and main findings of the ad hoc expert group meeting on developing a methodology for assessing the consequences incurred by third States as a result of preventive or enforcement measures and on exploring innovative and practical measures of international assistance to the affected third States,[74] and renews its invitation to States and relevant international organizations within and outside the

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[73] S/2000/319; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 2000*.

[74] A/53/312.

United Nations system which have not yet done so to provide their views regarding the report of the ad hoc expert group meeting;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to expedite the preparation of a report to the General Assembly containing his views on the deliberations and main findings, including the recommendations, of the ad hoc expert group on the implementation of the provisions of the Charter related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions, taking into account the views of States, the organizations of the United Nations system, international financial institutions and other international organizations, as well as the Chairman's proposed outcome of the informal working group of the Security Council on general issues relating to sanctions;

7. *Reaffirms* the important role of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Committee for Programme and Coordination in mobilizing and monitoring, as appropriate, the economic assistance efforts of the international community and the United Nations system on behalf of States confronted with special economic problems arising from the carrying out of preventive or enforcement measures imposed by the Security Council and, as appropriate, in identifying solutions to the special economic problems of those States;

8. *Takes note* of the decision of the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 2000/32 of 28 July 2000, to continue its consideration of the question of assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions, invites the Council, at its organizational session for 2002, to make appropriate arrangements for this purpose within its programme of work for 2002, and decides to transmit the most recent report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the provisions of the Charter related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions,[68] together with the relevant background materials, to the Council at its substantive session of 2002;

9. *Invites* the organizations of the United Nations system, international financial institutions, other international organizations, regional organizations and Member States to address more specifically and directly, where appropriate, the special economic problems of third States affected by sanctions imposed under Chapter VII of the Charter and, for this purpose, to consider improving procedures for consultations to maintain a constructive dialogue with such States, including through regular and frequent meetings as well as, where appropriate, special meetings between the affected third States and the donor community, with the participation of United Nations agencies and other international organizations;

10. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization, at its session in 2002, to continue to consider on a priority basis the question of the implementation of the provisions of the Charter related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter by commencing a substantive debate on all of the related reports of the Secretary-General, in particular the 1998 report containing a summary of the deliberations and main findings of the ad hoc expert group meeting convened pursuant to paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 52/162,[74] together with the most recent report of the Secretary-General on this question,[68] taking into consideration the forthcoming report of the informal working group of the Security Council on general issues relating to sanctions, the proposals submitted on the question, the debate on the question in the Sixth Committee during the fifty-sixth session of the Assembly and the text on the question of sanctions imposed by the United Nations contained in annex II to Assembly resolution 51/242, as well as the implementation of the provisions of Assembly resolutions 50/51, 51/208, 52/162, 53/107, 54/107, 55/157 and the present resolution;

11. *Decides* to consider, within the Sixth Committee or a working group of the Committee, at the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly, further progress in the elaboration of effective measures aimed at the implementation of the provisions of the Charter related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session, under the agenda item entitled "Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization".

RESOLUTION 56/88

Adopted at the 85th plenary meeting, on 12 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/593, para. 11)[75]

56/88. Measures to eliminate international terrorism

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling the Declaration on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations,[76]

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[77]

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[75] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the representative of Canada.

[76] See resolution 50/6.

[77] See resolution 55/2.

Recalling further all General Assembly and Security Council resolutions on measures to eliminate international terrorism,

Convinced of the importance of the consideration of measures to eliminate international terrorism by the General Assembly as the universal organ having competence to do so,

Deeply disturbed by the persistence of terrorist acts, which have been carried out worldwide,

Reaffirming its strong condemnation of the heinous acts of terrorism that caused enormous loss of human life, destruction and damage in the cities of New York, host city of the United Nations, and Washington, D.C., and in Pennsylvania, which prompted the adoption of General Assembly resolution 56/1 of 12 September 2001, as well as Security Council resolutions 1368 (2001) of 12 September 2001, 1373 (2001) of 28 September 2001 and 1377 (2001) of 12 November 2001,

Recalling its debate on the item entitled "Measures to eliminate international terrorism", held in plenary meeting from 1 to 5 October 2001,

Stressing the need to strengthen further international cooperation among States and among international organizations and agencies, regional organizations and arrangements and the United Nations in order to prevent, combat and eliminate terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomsoever committed, in accordance with the principles of the Charter, international law and relevant international conventions,

Mindful of the need to enhance the role of the United Nations and the relevant specialized agencies in combating international terrorism, and of the proposals of the Secretary-General to enhance the role of the Organization in this respect,

Recalling the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, contained in the annex to resolution 49/60 of 9 December 1994, wherein the General Assembly encouraged States to review urgently the scope of the existing international legal provisions on the prevention, repression and elimination of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, with the aim of ensuring that there was a comprehensive legal framework covering all aspects of the matter,

Taking note of the final document of the Thirteenth Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Cartagena, Colombia, on 8 and 9 April 2000,[78] which reiterated the collective position of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries on terrorism and reaffirmed the previous initiative of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998,[79] calling for an international summit conference under the auspices of the United Nations to formulate a joint organized response of the international community to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, and other relevant initiatives,

Recalling its decision in resolutions 54/110 of 9 December 1999 and 55/158 of 12 December 2000 that the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996 should address, and keep on its agenda, the question of convening a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations to formulate a joint organized response of the international community to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

Noting regional efforts to prevent, combat and eliminate terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomsoever committed, including through the elaboration of and adherence to regional conventions,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General,[80] the report of the Ad Hoc Committee[81] and the report of the Working Group of the Sixth Committee established pursuant to resolution 55/158,[82]

1. *Strongly condemns* all acts, methods and practices of terrorism as criminal and unjustifiable, wherever and by whomsoever committed;

2. *Reiterates* that criminal acts intended or calculated to provoke a state of terror in the general public, a group of persons or particular persons for political purposes are in any circumstances unjustifiable, whatever the considerations of a political, philosophical, ideological, racial, ethnic, religious or other nature that may be invoked to justify them;

3. *Reiterates its call* upon all States to adopt further measures in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant provisions of international law, including international standards of human rights, to prevent terrorism and to strengthen international cooperation in combating terrorism and, to that end, to consider in particular the implementation of the measures set out in paragraphs 3 (*a*) to (*f*) of resolution 51/210;

4. *Also reiterates its call* upon all States, with the aim of enhancing the efficient implementation of relevant legal instruments, to intensify, as and where appropriate, the exchange of information on facts related to terrorism and, in so doing, to avoid the dissemination of inaccurate or unverified information;

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[78] A/54/917-S/2000/580, annex.

[79] See A/53/667-S/1998/1071, annex I, paras. 149–162.

[80] A/56/160 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

[81] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 37* (A/56/37).

[82] A/C.6/56/L.9.

5. *Further reiterates its call* upon States to refrain from financing, encouraging, providing training for or otherwise supporting terrorist activities;

6. *Reaffirms* that international cooperation as well as actions by States to combat terrorism should be conducted in conformity with the principles of the Charter, international law and relevant international conventions;

7. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to consider, as a matter of priority, and in accordance with Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), becoming parties to relevant conventions and protocols as referred to in paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 51/210, as well as the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings[83] and the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism,[84] and calls upon all States to enact, as appropriate, domestic legislation necessary to implement the provisions of those conventions and protocols, to ensure that the jurisdiction of their courts enables them to bring to trial the perpetrators of terrorist acts, and to cooperate with and provide support and assistance to other States and relevant international and regional organizations to that end;

8. *Urges* States to cooperate with the Secretary-General and with one another, as well as with interested intergovernmental organizations, with a view to ensuring, where appropriate within existing mandates, that technical and other expert advice is provided to those States requiring and requesting assistance in becoming parties to the conventions and protocols referred to in paragraph 7 above;

9. *Notes with appreciation and satisfaction* that, consistent with the call contained in paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 55/158, a number of States became parties to the relevant conventions and protocols referred to therein, thereby realizing the objective of wider acceptance and implementation of those conventions;

10. *Reaffirms* the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, contained in the annex to resolution 49/60, and the Declaration to Supplement the 1994 Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, contained in the annex to resolution 51/210, and calls upon all States to implement them;

11. *Urges* all States and the Secretary-General, in their efforts to prevent international terrorism, to make best use of the existing institutions of the United Nations;

12. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the Centre for International Crime Prevention in Vienna, after reviewing existing possibilities within the United Nations system, to enhance, through its mandate, the capabilities of the United Nations in the prevention of terrorism;

13. *Invites* States that have not yet done so to submit to the Secretary-General information on their national laws and regulations regarding the prevention and suppression of acts of international terrorism;

14. *Invites* regional intergovernmental organizations to submit to the Secretary-General information on the measures they have adopted at the regional level to eliminate international terrorism;

15. *Welcomes* the important progress attained in the elaboration of the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism during the meetings of the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996 and the Working Group of the Sixth Committee established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 55/158;

16. *Decides* that the Ad Hoc Committee shall continue to elaborate a comprehensive convention on international terrorism as a matter of urgency, and shall continue its efforts to resolve the outstanding issues relating to the elaboration of a draft international convention for the suppression of acts of nuclear terrorism as a means of further developing a comprehensive legal framework of conventions dealing with international terrorism, and that it shall keep on its agenda the question of convening a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations to formulate a joint organized response of the international community to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations;

17. *Also decides* that the Ad Hoc Committee shall meet from 28 January to 1 February 2002 to continue the elaboration of a draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism, with appropriate time allocated to the continued consideration of outstanding issues relating to the elaboration of a draft international convention for the suppression of acts of nuclear terrorism, that it shall keep on its agenda the question of convening a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations to formulate a joint organized response of the international community to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, and that the work shall continue, if necessary, during the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly, within the framework of a working group of the Sixth Committee;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Ad Hoc Committee with the necessary facilities for the performance of its work;

19. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Committee to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session in the event of the completion of the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism or the draft international convention for the suppression of acts of nuclear terrorism;

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[83] Resolution 52/164, annex.

[84] Resolution 54/109, annex.

20. *Also requests* the Ad Hoc Committee to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on progress made in the implementation of its mandate;

21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Measures to eliminate international terrorism".

RESOLUTION 56/89

Adopted at the 85th plenary meeting, on 12 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/594 and Corr.1, para. 8)[85]

56/89. Scope of legal protection under the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/175 of 19 December 2000 on the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel,

Recalling also its resolution 49/59 of 9 December 1994, by which it adopted the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel,

Recalling further the letter dated 24 October 2000 addressed to the President of the Security Council on behalf of the global staff of the United Nations system,[86] drawing attention to the safety and security problems faced by United Nations and associated personnel,

Reaffirming the need to promote and ensure respect for the principles and rules of international law, including international humanitarian law, as well as the relevant provisions of human rights and refugee law,

Deeply concerned by the increasing dangers and security risks faced by United Nations and associated personnel at the field level, and mindful of the need to provide the fullest possible protection for their security,

Expressing concern that locally recruited personnel are particularly vulnerable to attacks,

Welcoming the recent increase in the number of States that have become parties to the Convention, which entered into force on 15 January 1999, and noting that the Convention has been ratified or acceded to by fifty-five States as at the date of the present resolution,

Mindful of the need to promote the universality of the Convention,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his report on the scope of legal protection under the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel,[87] and takes note of the recommendations contained therein;

2. *Calls upon* all States to consider becoming parties to and to respect fully their obligations under the relevant international instruments, in particular the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel;

3. *Takes note* of the report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations with regard to the safety and security of United Nations and associated personnel and the scope of existing legal protection and its recommendations;[88]

4. *Recommends* that the Secretary-General continue to seek the inclusion of relevant provisions of the Convention in the status-of-forces or status-of-mission agreements concluded by the United Nations;

5. *Encourages* the Secretary-General and relevant bodies within the United Nations system to continue to take such other practical measures as are within their authority and existing institutional mandates to strengthen protection for United Nations and associated personnel;

6. *Recognizes* the need to consider the safety and security of locally recruited personnel, who are particularly vulnerable and account for the majority of casualties;

7. *Decides* to establish an Ad Hoc Committee open to all States Members of the United Nations or members of the specialized agencies or of the International Atomic Energy Agency to consider the recommendations made by the Secretary-General in his report on measures to strengthen and enhance the protective legal regime for United Nations and associated personnel;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite the International Committee of the Red Cross to participate as an observer in the deliberations of the Ad Hoc Committee;

9. *Decides* that the Ad Hoc Committee shall meet from 1 to 5 April 2002, and recommends that, following the submission of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee, the Sixth Committee consider whether to continue this work during the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly from 7 to 11 October 2002 within the framework of a working group of the Sixth Committee;

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[85] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Denmark, Ecuador, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Sierra Leone, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine and United States of America.

[86] S/2000/1133, annex.

[87] A/55/637.

[88] A/55/1024 and Corr.1, sect. III.F.

10. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Committee to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Scope of legal protection under the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel".

RESOLUTION 56/90

Adopted at the 85th plenary meeting, on 12 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/596, para. 7)[89]

56/90. Observer status for the International Development Law Institute in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the International Development Law Institute,

1. *Decides* to invite the International Development Law Institute to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/91

Adopted at the 85th plenary meeting, on 12 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/597 and Corr.1, para. 7)[90]

56/91. Observer status for the International Hydrographic Organization in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the International Hydrographic Organization,

1. *Decides* to invite the International Hydrographic Organization to participate in its sessions and its work in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 56/92

Adopted at the 85th plenary meeting, on 12 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/598 and Corr.1, para. 7)[91]

56/92. Observer status for the Community of Sahelo-Saharan States in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Considering the importance of the Community of Sahelo-Saharan States, an intergovernmental organization that addresses the common interests of its members and takes account of the diverse links that unite their peoples, and given the determination of the organization to confront the factors that have caused economic backwardness and instability in its member States, its conviction that joint action in a framework of complementarity is the best way to integrate its countries and peoples, its commitment to the maintenance of international peace and security in the Sahelo-Saharan region and its determination to satisfy the wish for economic, cultural, political and social integration in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, the Charter of the Organization of African Unity, the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community of 3 June 1991 (the Abuja Treaty)[92] and the constitutive documents of the regional organizations to which its member States belong,

Considering also the need, frequently noted by the United Nations, to promote and support every effort towards the development of bilateral and multilateral cooperation on the basis of international law,

Noting that the treaty establishing the Community of Sahelo-Saharan States stresses regional cooperation as part of the process of achieving African unity on the basis of human rights and fundamental freedoms and the promotion of social justice and stability,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the Community of Sahelo-Saharan States,

1. *Decides* to invite the Community of Sahelo-Saharan States to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

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[89] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Austria, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, China, Ecuador, France, Italy, Netherlands, Philippines, Senegal, Tunisia and Turkey.

[90] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, India, Italy, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Monaco, Morocco, Mozambique, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Sierra Leone, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Ukraine, Uruguay and Yugoslavia.

[91] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Chad, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Gambia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan and Tunisia.

[92] A/46/651, annex.

RESOLUTION 56/93

Adopted at the 85th plenary meeting, on 12 December 2001, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/56/599, para. 8)[93]

56/93. International convention against the reproductive cloning of human beings

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights,[94] adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 11 November 1997, in particular article 11 thereof, in which the Conference specified that practices which are contrary to human dignity, such as reproductive cloning of human beings, shall not be permitted and invited States and international organizations to cooperate in taking, at the national or international level, the measures necessary in that regard,

Recalling also its resolution 53/152 of 9 December 1998, by which it endorsed the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights,

Bearing in mind Commission on Human Rights resolution 2001/71 of 25 April 2001, entitled "Human rights and bioethics",[95] adopted at the fifty-seventh session of the Commission,

Noting the resolution on bioethics adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 2 November 2001,[96] in which the Conference approved the recommendations by the Intergovernmental Bioethics Committee towards the possible elaboration, within the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, of universal norms on bioethics,

Aware that the rapid development of the life sciences opens up tremendous prospects for the improvement of the health of individuals and mankind as a whole, but also that certain practices pose potential dangers to the integrity and dignity of the individual,

Particularly concerned, in the context of practices which are contrary to human dignity, at recently disclosed information on the research being conducted with a view to the reproductive cloning of human beings,

Determined to prevent such an attack on the human dignity of the individual,

Aware of the need for a multidisciplinary approach to the elaboration by the international community of an appropriate response to this problem,

1. *Decides* to establish an Ad Hoc Committee, open to all States Members of the United Nations or members of specialized agencies or of the International Atomic Energy Agency, for the purpose of considering the elaboration of an international convention against the reproductive cloning of human beings;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite the specialized agencies that work and have substantial interest in the field of bioethics, including, in particular, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the World Health Organization, to participate as observers in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee;

3. *Decides* that the Ad Hoc Committee shall meet from 25 February to 1 March 2002 to consider the elaboration of a mandate for the negotiation of such an international convention, including a list of the existing international instruments to be taken into consideration and a list of legal issues to be addressed in the convention, with the understanding that the Ad Hoc Committee will open with an exchange of information and technical assessments provided by experts on genetics and bioethics, and recommends that the work continue during the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly from 23 to 27 September 2002, within the framework of a working group of the Sixth Committee;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Ad Hoc Committee with the necessary facilities for the performance of its work;

5. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Committee to report on its work to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

6. *Recommends* that, upon the adoption of a negotiation mandate by the General Assembly, it may decide, taking into account the acute nature of the problem, to reconvene the Ad Hoc Committee, in order to open negotiations on the international convention referred to in paragraph 1 above;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "International convention against the reproductive cloning of human beings".

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[93] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Andorra, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Yugoslavia.

[94] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Twenty-ninth Session*, vol. I, *Resolutions*, resolution 16.

[95] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[96] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-first Session*, vol. 1, *Resolutions*, resolution 22.

Annex I

Allocation of agenda items

Plenary meetings

1. Opening of the session by the Chairman of the delegation of Finland (item 1).
2. Minute of silent prayer or meditation (item 2).
3. Credentials of representatives to the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly (item 3):
    (*a*) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee;
    (*b*) Report of the Credentials Committee.
4. Election of the President of the General Assembly (item 4).
5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees (item 5).
6. Election of the Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly (item 6).
7. Notification by the Secretary-General under Article 12, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations (item 7).
8. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work: reports of the General Committee (item 8).
9. General debate (item 9).
10. Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization (item 10).
11. Report of the Security Council (item 11).
12. Report of the Economic and Social Council (item 12).
13. Report of the International Court of Justice (item 13).
14. Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency (item 14).
15. Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs (item 15):
    (*a*) Election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council;
    (*b*) Election of eighteen members of the Economic and Social Council;
    (*c*) Election of a member of the International Court of Justice.
16. Elections to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other elections (item 16):
    (*a*) Election of the members of the International Law Commission;
    (*b*) Election of twenty-nine members of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme;
    (*c*) Election of seven members of the Committee for Programme and Coordination;
    (*d*) Election of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme.
17. Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments (item 17):
    (*g*) Appointment of members of the Joint Inspection Unit;
    (*h*) Appointment of members of the Committee on Conferences;
    (*i*) Approval of the appointment of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.
18. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (item 18).
19. Admission of new Members to the United Nations (item 19).

20. Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance (item 20):
    (*a*) Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations;
    (*b*) Special economic assistance to individual countries or regions;
    (*c*) Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster;
    (*d*) Participation of volunteers, "White Helmets", in the activities of the United Nations in the field of humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and technical cooperation for development;
    (*e*) Assistance to the Palestinian people;
    (*f*) Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan.
21. Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations (item 21):
    (*a*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System;
    (*b*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie;
    (*c*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe;
    (*d*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference;
    (*e*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States;
    (*f*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union;
    (*g*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Community of Central African States;
    (*h*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization;
    (*i*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe;
    (*j*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity;
    (*k*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization;
    (*l*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons;
    (*m*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Pacific Islands Forum.
22. Final review and appraisal of the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s (item 22).
23. Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal (item 23).
24. Review of the problem of human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome in all its aspects (item 24).
25. United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations (item 25).
26. Follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children (item 26).
27. Culture of peace (item 28).
28. Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit (item 29).
29. Oceans and the law of the sea (item 30):
    (*a*) Oceans and the law of the sea;

(*b*) Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks.

30. University for Peace (item 31).
31. Multilingualism (item 32).
32. Return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin (item 33).
33. Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba (item 34).
34. Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies (item 35).
35. Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic (item 36).
36. The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict (item 37).
37. Assistance in mine action (item 38).
38. Towards global partnerships (item 39).
39. The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (item 40).
40. Question of Palestine (item 41).
41. The situation in the Middle East (item 42).
42. The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security (item 43).
43. The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development (item 44).
44. Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) (item 45).
45. The situation in East Timor during its transition to independence (item 46).
46. The situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti (item 47).
47. Causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa (item 48).
48. Question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and related matters (item 49).
49. Report of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 (item 50).
50. Report of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 (item 51).
51. Declaration of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity on the aerial and naval military attack against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya by the present United States Administration in April 1986 (item 52).
52. Armed Israeli aggression against the Iraqi nuclear installations and its grave consequences for the established international system concerning the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and international peace and security (item 53).
53. Consequences of the Iraqi occupation of and aggression against Kuwait (item 54).
54. Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations (item 55).
55. Launching of global negotiations on international economic cooperation for development (item 56).

56. Question of the Comorian island of Mayotte (item 57).
57. United Nations reform: measures and proposals (item 58).
58. Strengthening of the United Nations system (item 59).
59. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly (item 60).
60. Restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields (item 61).
61. Armed aggression against the Democratic Republic of the Congo (item 63).
62. Sustainable development and international economic cooperation (item 97):
    (*c*) High-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership.
63. Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family (item 108).
64. Observance of the International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict (item 171).
65. Peace, security and reunification on the Korean peninsula (item 175).
66. Measures to eliminate international terrorism (item 166).
67. United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage, 2002 (item 177).

First Committee

(DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE)

1. Reduction of military budgets (item 64):
    (*a*) Reduction of military budgets;
    (*b*) Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures.
2. Verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification (item 65).
3. Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace (item 66).
4. African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (item 67).
5. Maintenance of international security – good-neighbourliness, stability and development in South-Eastern Europe (item 68).
6. Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security (item 69).
7. Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament (item 70).
8. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East (item 71).
9. Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons (item 72).
10. Prevention of an arms race in outer space (item 73).
11. General and complete disarmament (item 74):
    (*a*) Notification of nuclear tests;
    (*b*) Further measures in the field of disarmament for the prevention of an arms race on the seabed and the ocean floor and in the subsoil thereof;
    (*c*) Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes;

(*d*) Missiles;

(*e*) Preservation of and compliance with the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems;

(*f*) Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: the need for a new agenda;

(*g*) Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and collecting them;

(*h*) Consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures;

(*i*) Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction;

(*j*) Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas;

(*k*) Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control;

(*l*) Relationship between disarmament and development;

(*m*) Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament;

(*n*) Reducing nuclear danger;

(*o*) Regional disarmament;

(*p*) Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels;

(*q*) Illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons;

(*r*) Nuclear disarmament;

(*s*) Transparency in armaments;

(*t*) Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction;

(*u*) Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia;

(*v*) Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*;

(*w*) Small arms.

12. Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly (item 75):

(*a*) Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questic[illegible]n Central Africa;

(*b*) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa;

(*c*) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean;

(*d*) United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament;

(*e*) Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons;

(*f*) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific.

13. Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session (item 76):

(*a*) Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters;

(*b*) United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research;

(*c*) Report of the Conference on Disarmament;

(*d*) Report of the Disarmament Commission.

14. The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East (item 77).

15. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects (item 78).

16. Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region (item 79).

17. Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) (item 80).

18. Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction (item 81).

19. Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (item 82).

20. Compliance with arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements (item 83).

21. Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security (item 84).

Special Political and Decolonization Committee
(Fourth Committee)

1. Effects of atomic radiation (item 85).

2. International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space (item 86).

3. United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (item 87).

4. Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories (item 88).

5. Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects (item 89).

6. Questions relating to information (item 90).

7. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations (item 91).

8. Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories (item 92).

9. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations (item 93).

10. Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapter VII (section D)] (item 12).

11. Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories (item 94).

12. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (item 18).

13. Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) (item 45).

Second Committee

(ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL COMMITTEE)

1. Macroeconomic policy questions (item 95):

    (*a*) Trade and development;

    (*b*) International financial system and development;

    (*c*) Science and technology for development;

(*d*) External debt crisis and development.

2. Sectoral policy questions (item 96):

   (*a*) Business and development;

   (*b*) Industrial development cooperation.

3. Sustainable development and international economic cooperation (item 97):

   (*a*) Women in development;

   (*b*) Human resources development;

   (*c*) High-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership;

   (*d*) Implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade.

4. Environment and sustainable development (item 98):

   (*a*) Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21;

   (*b*) International strategy for disaster reduction;

   (*c*) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa;

   (*d*) Convention on Biological Diversity;

   (*e*) Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

   (*f*) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind;

   (*g*) Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996–2005.

5. Operational activities for development (item 99):

   (*a*) Triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

   (*b*) Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries.

6. International migration and development, including the question of the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development to address migration issues (item 100).

7. Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources (item 101).

8. Implementation of the Habitat Agenda and outcome of the special session of the General Assembly on this topic (item 102).

9. Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006) (item 103).

10. Training and research (item 104).

11. Globalization and interdependence (item 105).

12. Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (item 106):

    (*a*) Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;

    (*b*) Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010.

13. High-level international intergovernmental consideration of financing for development (item 107).

14. Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapters I to V, VII (sections A to C and E to H) and IX] (item 12).

Third Committee

(SOCIAL, HUMANITARIAN AND CULTURAL COMMITTEE)

1. Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family (item 108).

2. Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing (item 109).

3. Crime prevention and criminal justice (item 110).

4. International drug control (item 111).

5. Advancement of women (item 112).

6. Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century" (item 113).

7. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions (item 114).

8. Promotion and protection of the rights of children (item 115).

9. Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People (item 116).

10. Elimination of racism and racial discrimination (item 117).

11. Right of peoples to self-determination (item 118).

12. Human rights questions (item 119):

    (*a*) Implementation of human rights instruments;

    (*b*) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

    (*c*) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives;

    (*d*) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;

    (*e*) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

13. Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapters I, III to V, VII (sections A to C and I) and IX] (item 12).

14. Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly (item 27).

Fifth Committee

(ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY COMMITTEE)

1. Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors (item 120):

    (*a*) United Nations peacekeeping operations;

    (*b*) Voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

2. Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations (item 121).

3. Programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001 (item 122).

4. Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003 (item 123).

5. Pattern of conferences (item 124).
6. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations (item 125).
7. Human resources management (item 126).
8. United Nations common system (item 127).
9. Joint Inspection Unit (item 128).
10. Improving the financial situation of the United Nations (item 129).
11. Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (item 130).
12. Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 (item 131).
13. Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 (item 132).
14. Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations (item 133).
15. Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East (item 134):
    (*a*) United Nations Disengagement Observer Force;
    (*b*) United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon.
16. Financing of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (item 135).
17. Financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor (item 136).
18. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (item 137).
19. Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission and the United Nations Observer Mission in Angola (item 138).
20. Financing of the activities arising from Security Council resolution 687 (1991) (item 139):
    (*a*) United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission;
    (*b*) Other activities.
21. Financing of the United Nations Mission in East Timor (item 140).
22. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (item 141).
23. Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (item 142).
24. Financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan (item 143).
25. Financing of the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force (item 144).
26. Financing and liquidation of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (item 145).
27. Financing of the United Nations Protection Force, the United Nations Confidence Restoration Operation in Croatia, the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force and the United Nations Peace Forces headquarters (item 146).
28. Financing of the United Nations Operation in Somalia II (item 147).
29. Financing of the United Nations Operation in Mozambique (item 148).
30. Financing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (item 149).
31. Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia (item 150).

32. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Haiti (item 151).

33. Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia (item 152).

34. Financing of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (item 153).

35. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (item 154).

36. Financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium and the Civilian Police Support Group (item 155).

37. Financing of the United Nations Support Mission in Haiti, the United Nations Transition Mission in Haiti and the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti (item 156).

38. Financing of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic (item 157).

39. Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (item 158).

40. Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapters I, VII (sections B and C) and IX] (item 12).

41. Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments (item 17):

    (*a*) Appointment of members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

    (*b*) Appointment of members of the Committee on Contributions;

    (*c*) Appointment of a member of the Board of Auditors;

    (*d*) Confirmation of the appointment of members of the Investments Committee;

    (*e*) Appointment of members of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal;

    (*f*) Appointment of members of the International Civil Service Commission.

42. Administration of justice at the United Nations (item 169).

Sixth Committee

(LEGAL COMMITTEE)

1. United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law (item 159).

2. Convention on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property (item 160).

3. Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its thirty-fourth session (item 161).

4. Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-third session (item 162).

5. Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country (item 163).

6. Establishment of the International Criminal Court (item 164).

7. Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization (item 165).

8. Measures to eliminate international terrorism (item 166).

9. Scope of legal protection under the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel (item 167).

10. Observer status for the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance in the General Assembly (item 168).

11. Observer status for the International Development Law Institute in the General Assembly (item 170).

12. Observer status for the International Hydrographic Organization in the General Assembly (item 172).

13. Observer status for the Community of Sahelo-Saharan States in the General Assembly (item 173).
14. International convention against the reproductive cloning of human beings (item 174).
15. Observer status for Partners in Population and Development in the General Assembly (item 176).
16. Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations (item 21):
    - (*f*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union.

Annex II

Checklist of resolutions

Resolution No.	*Title*	*Item*	*Plenary meeting*	*Date of adoption*	*Page*
56/1.	Condemnation of terrorist attacks in the United States of America	8	1st	12 September 2001	4
56/2.	University for Peace	31	29th	22 October 2001	4
56/3.	United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations	25	33rd	30 October 2001	5
56/4.	Observance of the International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict	171	37th	5 November 2001	5
56/5.	International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, 2001–2010	28	37th	5 November 2001	6
56/6.	Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations	25	43rd	9 November 2001	7
56/7.	Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic	36	61st	21 November 2001	10
56/8.	United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage, 2002	177	61st	21 November 2001	12
56/9.	Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba	34	64th	27 November 2001	13
56/10.	Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and rehabilitation in Tajikistan	20 (*b*)	65th	27 November 2001	14
56/11.	Emergency assistance to Belize	20 (*b*)	65th	27 November 2001	15
56/12.	Oceans and the law of the sea	30 (*a*)	67th	28 November 2001	16
56/13.	Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks	30 (*b*)	67th	28 November 2001	23
56/14.	Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures	64 (*b*)	68th	29 November 2001	113
56/15.	Verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification	65	68th	29 November 2001	114
56/16.	Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace	66	68th	29 November 2001	115
56/17.	African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba)	67	68th	29 November 2001	116
56/18.	Maintenance of international security - good-neighbourliness, stability and development in South-Eastern Europe	68	68th	29 November 2001	116
56/19.	Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security	69	68th	29 November 2001	118

Resolution No.	*Title*	*Item*	*Plenary meeting*	*Date of adoption*	*Page*
56/20.	Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament	70	68th	29 November 2001	119
56/21.	Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East	71	68th	29 November 2001	120
56/22.	Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons	72	68th	29 November 2001	122
56/23.	Prevention of an arms race in outer space	73	68th	29 November 2001	124
56/24.	General and complete disarmament				
	A. Preservation of and compliance with the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems	74 (*e*)	68th	29 November 2001	125
	B. Missiles	74 (*d*)	68th	29 November 2001	126
	C. Reducing nuclear danger	74 (*n*)	68th	29 November 2001	127
	D. Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament	74 (*m*)	68th	29 November 2001	128
	E. Relationship between disarmament and development	74 (*l*)	68th	29 November 2001	129
	F. Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control	74 (*k*)	68th	29 November 2001	130
	G. Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas	74 (*j*)	68th	29 November 2001	131
	H. Regional disarmament	74 (*o*)	68th	29 November 2001	132
	I. Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels	74 (*p*)	68th	29 November 2001	133
	J. The Conference on Disarmament decision (CD/1547) of 11 August 1998 to establish, under item 1 of its agenda entitled "Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament", an ad hoc committee to negotiate, on the basis of the report of the Special Coordinator (CD/1299) and the mandate contained therein, a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices	74	68th	29 November 2001	134
	K. Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction	74 (*i*)	68th	29 November 2001	134
	L. Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes	74 (*c*)	68th	29 November 2001	135

Resolution No.	*Title*	*Item*	*Plenary meeting*	*Date of adoption*	*Page*
	M. Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction	74 (*t*)	68th	29 November 2001	136
	N. A path to the total elimination of nuclear weapons	74	68th	29 November 2001	138
	O. 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and its Preparatory Committee	74	68th	29 November 2001	140
	P. Consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures	74 (*h*)	68th	29 November 2001	141
	Q. Transparency in armaments	74 (*s*)	68th	29 November 2001	142
	R. Nuclear disarmament	74 (*r*)	68th	29 November 2001	143
	S. Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court Of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*	74 (*v*)	68th	29 November 2001	146
	T. Multilateral cooperation in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation and global efforts against terrorism	74	68th	29 November 2001	147
	U. Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and collecting them	74 (*g*)	68th	29 November 2001	148
	V. The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects	74 (*q*)	92nd	24 December 2001	149
56/25.	Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly				
	A. Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa	75 (*a*)	68th	29 November 2001	150
	B. Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons	75 (*e*)	68th	29 November 2001	152
	C. United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament	75 (*d*)	68th	29 November 2001	153
	D. United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa	75 (*b*)	68th	29 November 2001	154
	E. United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean	75 (*c*)	68th	29 November 2001	155
	F. United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific	75 (*f*)	68th	29 November 2001	156

Resolution No.	*Title*	*Item*	*Plenary meeting*	*Date of adoption*	*Page*
56/26.	Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session				
	A. Report of the Disarmament Commission	76 (*d*)	68th	29 November 2001	157
	B. Report of the Conference on Disarmament	76 (*c*)	68th	29 November 2001	158
56/27.	The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East	77	68th	29 November 2001	158
56/28.	Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects	78	68th	29 November 2001	160
56/29.	Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region	79	68th	29 November 2001	162
56/30.	Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)	80	68th	29 November 2001	163
56/31.	Jerusalem	42	72nd	3 December 2001	26
56/32.	The Syrian Golan	42	72nd	3 December 2001	27
56/33.	Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People	41	72nd	3 December 2001	28
56/34.	Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat	41	72nd	3 December 2001	29
56/35.	Special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat	41	72nd	3 December 2001	30
56/36.	Peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine	41	72nd	3 December 2001	31
56/37.	Causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa	48	74th	4 December 2001	32
56/38.	Recommendations on support for volunteering	108	76th	5 December 2001	34
56/39.	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Community of Central African States	21 (*g*)	80th	7 December 2001	38
56/40.	Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States	21 (*e*)	80th	7 December 2001	39
56/41.	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Pacific Islands Forum	21 (*m*)	80th	7 December 2001	41
56/42.	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons	21 (*l*)	80th	7 December 2001	42
56/43.	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe	21 (*c*)	80th	7 December 2001	42
56/44.	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization	21 (*h*)	80th	7 December 2001	43

Resolution No.	*Title*	*Item*	*Plenary meeting*	*Date of adoption*	*Page*
56/45.	Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie	21 (*b*)	80th	7 December 2001	45
56/46.	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union	21 (*f*)	80th	7 December 2001	46
56/47.	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference	21 (*d*)	80th	7 December 2001	47
56/48.	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity	21 (*j*)	80th	7 December 2001	48
56/49.	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization	21 (*k*)	80th	7 December 2001	51
56/50.	Effects of atomic radiation	85	82nd	10 December 2001	167
56/51.	International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space	86	82nd	10 December 2001	168
56/52.	Assistance to Palestine refugees	87	82nd	10 December 2001	173
56/53.	Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East	87	82nd	10 December 2001	174
56/54.	Persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities	87	82nd	10 December 2001	174
56/55.	Offers by Member States of grants and scholarships for higher education, including vocational training, for Palestine refugees	87	82nd	10 December 2001	175
56/56.	Operations of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East	87	82nd	10 December 2001	176
56/57.	Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues	87	82nd	10 December 2001	178
56/58.	University of Jerusalem "Al-Quds" for Palestine refugees	87	82nd	10 December 2001	179
56/59.	Work of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories	88	82nd	10 December 2001	180
56/60.	Applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and the other occupied Arab territories	88	82nd	10 December 2001	181
56/61.	Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and the occupied Syrian Golan	88	82nd	10 December 2001	182
56/62.	Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem	88	82nd	10 December 2001	183

Resolution No.	*Title*	*Item*	*Plenary meeting*	*Date of adoption*	*Page*
56/63.	The occupied Syrian Golan	88	82nd	10 December 2001	185
56/64.	Questions relating to information				
	A. Information in the service of humanity	90	82nd	10 December 2001	186
	B. United Nations public information policies and activities	90	92nd	24 December 2001	187
56/65.	Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations	91	82nd	10 December 2001	193
56/66.	Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories	92 and 18	82nd	10 December 2001	194
56/67.	Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations	93 and 12	82nd	10 December 2001	196
56/68.	Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories	94	82nd	10 December 2001	198
56/69.	Question of Western Sahara	18	82nd	10 December 2001	199
56/70.	Question of New Caledonia	18	82nd	10 December 2001	200
56/71.	Question of Tokelau	18	82nd	10 December 2001	202
56/72.	Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands				
	A. General	18	82nd	10 December 2001	203
	B. Individual territories	18	82nd	10 December 2001	206
56/73.	Dissemination of information on decolonization	18	82nd	10 December 2001	52
56/74.	Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples	18	82nd	10 December 2001	53
56/75.	Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal	23	83rd	11 December 2001	55
56/76.	Towards global partnerships	39	84th	11 December 2001	56
56/77.	United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law	159	85th	12 December 2001	478
56/78.	Convention on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property	160	85th	12 December 2001	479
56/79.	Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its thirty-fourth session	161	85th	12 December 2001	480

Resolution No.	*Title*	*Item*	*Plenary meeting*	*Date of adoption*	*Page*
56/80.	Model Law on Electronic Signatures of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law	161	85th	12 December 2001	482
56/81.	United Nations Convention on the Assignment of Receivables in International Trade	161	85th	12 December 2001	485
56/82.	Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-third session	162	85th	12 December 2001	498
56/83.	Responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts	162	85th	12 December 2001	499
56/84.	Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country	163	85th	12 December 2001	506
56/85.	Establishment of the International Criminal Court	164	85th	12 December 2001	507
56/86.	Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization	165	85th	12 December 2001	509
56/87.	Implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions	165	85th	12 December 2001	510
56/88.	Measures to eliminate international terrorism	166	85th	12 December 2001	513
56/89.	Scope of legal protection under the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel	167	85th	12 December 2001	516
56/90.	Observer status for the International Development Law Institute in the General Assembly	170	85th	12 December 2001	517
56/91.	Observer status for the International Hydrographic Organization in the General Assembly	172	85th	12 December 2001	517
56/92.	Observer status for the Community of Sahelo-Saharan States in the General Assembly	173	85th	12 December 2001	517
56/93.	International convention against the reproductive cloning of human beings	174	85th	12 December 2001	518
56/94.	Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency	14	86th	14 December 2001	58
56/95.	Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit	29	86th	14 December 2001	62
56/96.	Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies	35	86th	14 December 2001	62
56/97.	Return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin	33	86th	14 December 2001	64
56/98.	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System	21 (*a*)	86th	14 December 2001	66
56/99.	Emergency response to disasters	20 (*a*)	87th	14 December 2001	66
56/100.	Special assistance for the economic recovery and reconstruction of the Democratic Republic of the Congo	20 (*b*)	87th	14 December 2001	67

Resolution No.	*Title*	*Item*	*Plenary meeting*	*Date of adoption*	*Page*
56/101.	Humanitarian assistance to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia	20 (*b*)	87th	14 December 2001	69
56/102.	Participation of volunteers, "White Helmets", in the activities of the United Nations in the field of humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and technical cooperation for development	20 (*d*)	87th	14 December 2001	70
56/103.	International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development	20 (*a*)	87th	14 December 2001	71
56/104.	Assistance for humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and development for East Timor	20 (*b*)	87th	14 December 2001	73
56/105.	International assistance to and cooperation with the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America	20 (*b*)	87th	14 December 2001	75
56/106.	Assistance for humanitarian relief and the economic and social rehabilitation of Somalia	20 (*b*)	87th	14 December 2001	77
56/107.	Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	20 (*a*)	87th	14 December 2001	79
56/108.	Economic assistance for the reconstruction and development of Djibouti	20 (*b*)	87th	14 December 2001	80
56/109.	Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster	20 (*c*)	87th	14 December 2001	81
56/110.	Economic assistance to the Eastern European States affected by the developments in the Balkans	20 (*b*)	87th	14 December 2001	82
56/111.	Assistance to the Palestinian people	20 (*e*)	87th	14 December 2001	84
56/112.	Emergency assistance to the Sudan	20 (*b*)	87th	14 December 2001	85
56/113.	Preparations for and observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family	108	88th	19 December 2001	276
56/114.	Cooperatives in social development	108	88th	19 December 2001	276
56/115.	Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons: towards a society for all in the twenty-first century	108	88th	19 December 2001	277
56/116.	United Nations Literacy Decade: education for all	108	88th	19 December 2001	280
56/117.	Policies and programmes involving youth	108	88th	19 December 2001	282
56/118.	United Nations Trust Fund for Ageing	109	88th	19 December 2001	284
56/119.	Role, function, periodicity and duration of the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders	110	88th	19 December 2001	284

Resolution No.	*Title*	*Item*	*Plenary meeting*	*Date of adoption*	*Page*
56/120.	Action against transnational organized crime: assistance to States in capacity-building with a view to facilitating the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto	110	88th	19 December 2001	286
56/121.	Combating the criminal misuse of information technologies	110	88th	19 December 2001	286
56/122.	United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders	110	88th	19 December 2001	287
56/123.	Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity	110	88th	19 December 2001	288
56/124.	International cooperation against the world drug problem	111	88th	19 December 2001	290
56/125.	Critical situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women	112	88th	19 December 2001	296
56/126.	Situation of older women in society	112	88th	19 December 2001	297
56/127.	Improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system	112	88th	19 December 2001	298
56/128.	Traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls	112	88th	19 December 2001	301
56/129.	Improvement of the situation of women in rural areas	112	88th	19 December 2001	304
56/130.	United Nations Development Fund for Women	112	88th	19 December 2001	305
56/131.	Violence against women migrant workers	112	88th	19 December 2001	307
56/132.	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly	113	88th	19 December 2001	309
56/133.	Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	114	88th	19 December 2001	312
56/134.	Follow-up to the Regional Conference to Address the Problems of Refugees, Displaced Persons, Other Forms of Involuntary Displacement and Returnees in the Countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and Relevant Neighbouring States	114	88th	19 December 2001	313
56/135.	Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa	114	88th	19 December 2001	314
56/136.	Assistance to unaccompanied refugee minors	114	88th	19 December 2001	317
56/137.	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	114	88th	19 December 2001	319
56/138.	The rights of the child	115	88th	19 December 2001	320

Resolution No.	*Title*	*Item*	*Plenary meeting*	*Date of adoption*	*Page*
56/139.	The girl child	115	88th	19 December 2001	321
56/140.	International Decade of the World's Indigenous People	116	88th	19 December 2001	324
56/141.	Universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination	118	88th	19 December 2001	326
56/142.	The right of the Palestinian people to self-determination	118	88th	19 December 2001	326
56/143.	Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment	119 (*a*)	88th	19 December 2001	327
56/144.	International Covenants on Human Rights	119 (*a*)	88th	19 December 2001	330
56/145.	International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families	119 (*a*)	88th	19 December 2001	333
56/146.	Equitable geographical distribution in the membership of the human rights treaty bodies	119 (*a*)	88th	19 December 2001	334
56/147.	Human rights education	119 (*b*)	88th	19 December 2001	335
56/148.	Human rights and unilateral coercive measures	119 (*b*)	88th	19 December 2001	336
56/149.	Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights	119 (*b*)	88th	19 December 2001	337
56/150.	The right to development	119 (*b*)	88th	19 December 2001	338
56/151.	Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order	119 (*b*)	88th	19 December 2001	341
56/152.	Respect for the purposes and principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations to achieve international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms and in solving international problems of a humanitarian character	119 (*b*)	88th	19 December 2001	344
56/153.	Strengthening United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity	119 (*b*)	88th	19 December 2001	345
56/154.	Respect for the principles of national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of States in electoral processes as an important element for the promotion and protection of human rights	119 (*b*)	88th	19 December 2001	347
56/155.	The right to food	119 (*b*)	88th	19 December 2001	348
56/156.	Human rights and cultural diversity	119 (*b*)	88th	19 December 2001	350
56/157.	Elimination of all forms of religious intolerance	119 (*b*)	88th	19 December 2001	352
56/158.	National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights	119 (*b*)	88th	19 December 2001	354

Resolution No.	*Title*	*Item*	*Plenary meeting*	*Date of adoption*	*Page*
56/159.	Strengthening the role of the United Nations in enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections and the promotion of democratization	119 (*b*)	88th	19 December 2001	356
56/160.	Human rights and terrorism	119 (*b*)	88th	19 December 2001	357
56/161.	Human rights in the administration of justice	119 (*b*)	88th	19 December 2001	359
56/162.	Effective promotion of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities	119 (*b*)	88th	19 December 2001	361
56/163.	Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms	119 (*b*)	88th	19 December 2001	363
56/164.	Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons	119 (*b*)	88th	19 December 2001	364
56/165.	Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights	119 (*b*)	88th	19 December 2001	366
56/166.	Human rights and mass exoduses	119 (*b*)	88th	19 December 2001	367
56/167.	United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education	119 (*b*)	88th	19 December 2001	369
56/168.	Comprehensive and integral international convention to promote and protect the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities	119 (*b*)	88th	19 December 2001	373
56/169.	Situation of human rights in Cambodia	119 (*b*)	88th	19 December 2001	374
56/170.	Protection of migrants	119 (*b*)	88th	19 December 2001	378
56/171.	Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran	119 (*c*)	88th	19 December 2001	380
56/172.	Situation of human rights in parts of South-Eastern Europe	119 (*c*)	88th	19 December 2001	382
56/173.	Situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo	119 (*c*)	88th	19 December 2001	384
56/174.	Situation of human rights in Iraq	119 (*c*)	88th	19 December 2001	388
56/175.	Situation of human rights in the Sudan	119 (*c*)	88th	19 December 2001	391
56/176.	Question of human rights in Afghanistan	119 (*c*)	88th	19 December 2001	396
56/177.	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly	27	88th	19 December 2001	399
56/178.	International trade and development	95 (*a*)	90th	21 December 2001	215
56/179.	Unilateral economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries	95 (*a*)	90th	21 December 2001	215
56/180.	Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries	95 (*a*)	90th	21 December 2001	216

Resolution No.	*Title*	*Item*	*Plenary meeting*	*Date of adoption*	*Page*
56/181.	Towards a strengthened and stable international financial architecture responsive to the priorities of growth and development, especially in developing countries, and to the promotion of economic and social equity	95 (*b*)	90th	21 December 2001	219
56/182.	Science and technology for development	95 (*c*)	90th	21 December 2001	219
56/183.	World Summit on the Information Society	95 (*c*)	90th	21 December 2001	221
56/184.	Enhancing international cooperation towards a durable solution to the external debt problems of developing countries	95 (*d*)	90th	21 December 2001	222
56/185.	Business and development	96 (*a*)	90th	21 December 2001	222
56/186.	Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin and returning such funds to the countries of origin	96 (*a*)	90th	21 December 2001	223
56/187.	Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1993–2002)	96 (*b*)	90th	21 December 2001	224
56/188.	Women in development	97 (*a*)	90th	21 December 2001	226
56/189.	Human resources development	97 (*b*)	90th	21 December 2001	229
56/190.	High-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership	97 (*c*)	90th	21 December 2001	231
56/191.	Implementation of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade	97 (*d*)	90th	21 December 2001	231
56/192.	Status of preparations for the International Year of Freshwater, 2003	98	90th	21 December 2001	232
56/193.	Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twenty-first session	98	90th	21 December 2001	233
56/194.	International cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon	98 (*b*)	90th	21 December 2001	234
56/195.	International Strategy for Disaster Reduction	98 (*b*)	90th	21 December 2001	234
56/196.	Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa	98 (*c*)	90th	21 December 2001	237
56/197.	Convention on Biological Diversity	98 (*d*)	90th	21 December 2001	239
56/198.	Further implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States	98 (*e*)	90th	21 December 2001	240

Resolution No.	Title	Item	Plenary meeting	Date of adoption	Page
56/199.	Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind	98 (*f*)	90th	21 December 2001	242
56/200.	Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996–2005	98 (*g*)	90th	21 December 2001	243
56/201.	Triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system	99 (*a*)	90th	21 December 2001	245
56/202.	Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries	99 (*b*)	90th	21 December 2001	253
56/203	International migration and development	100	90th	21 December 2001	255
56/204.	Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources	101	90th	21 December 2001	257
56/205.	Special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)	102	90th	21 December 2001	258
56/206.	Strengthening the mandate and status of the Commission on Human Settlements and the status, role and functions of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)	102	90th	21 December 2001	259
56/207.	Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006), including the proposal to establish a world solidarity fund for poverty eradication	103	90th	21 December 2001	262
56/208.	United Nations Institute for Training and Research	104	90th	21 December 2001	266
56/209.	Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence	105	90th	21 December 2001	267
56/210.	International Conference on Financing for Development	107	90th	21 December 2001	268
56/211.	Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields	12	90th	21 December 2001	268
56/212.	Global Code of Ethics for Tourism	12	90th	21 December 2001	269
56/213.	Public administration and development	12	90th	21 December 2001	269
56/214.	Financing of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon	134 (*b*)	91st	21 December 2001	411
56/215.	The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina	40	91st	21 December 2001	87
56/216.	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe	21 (*i*)	91st	21 December 2001	89

Resolution No.	*Title*	*Item*	*Plenary meeting*	*Date of adoption*	*Page*
56/217.	Safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel	20	91st	21 December 2001	92
56/218.	Final review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s	22	91st	21 December 2001	96
56/219.	Assistance in mine action	38	91st	21 December 2001	97
56/220.	Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan and the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security				
	A. The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security	20 (*f*) and 43	91st	21 December 2001	101
	B. Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan	20 (*f*) and 43	91st	21 December 2001	102
56/221.	Credentials of representatives to the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly	3	92nd	24 December 2001	104
56/222.	Special session of the General Assembly on children	26	92nd	24 December 2001	104
56/223.	United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala	44	92nd	24 December 2001	105
56/224.	The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development	44	92nd	24 December 2001	106
56/225.	Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects	89	92nd	24 December 2001	212
56/226.	World Summit on Sustainable Development	98 (*a*)	92nd	24 December 2001	270
56/227.	Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries	106 (*b*)	92nd	24 December 2001	271
56/228.	Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing	109	92nd	24 December 2001	400
56/229.	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women	112	92nd	24 December 2001	401
56/230.	Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa	119 (*b*)	92nd	24 December 2001	403
56/231.	Situation of human rights in Myanmar	119 (*c*)	92nd	24 December 2001	404
56/232.	Use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination	118	92nd	24 December 2001	406
56/233.	Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors	120	92nd	24 December 2001	413
56/234.	Management of buildings: practices of selected United Nations system organizations relevant to the renovation of the United Nations Headquarters	121 and 128	92nd	24 December 2001	413

Resolution No.	*Title*	*Item*	*Plenary meeting*	*Date of adoption*	*Page*
56/235.	Report of the Joint Inspection Unit on policies and practices in the use of the services of private management consulting firms in the organizations of the United Nations system	121 and 128	92nd	24 December 2001	413
56/236.	Enhancing the United Nations experience for visitors	122	92nd	24 December 2001	414
56/237.	Development Account	122	92nd	24 December 2001	414
56/238.	Proposed measures to improve the profitability of the commercial activities of the United Nations	122	92nd	24 December 2001	415
56/239.	Information technology	122	92nd	24 December 2001	416
56/240.	Programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001				
	A. Final budget appropriations for the biennium 2000–2001	122	92nd	24 December 2001	416
	B. Final income estimates for the biennium 2000–2001	122	92nd	24 December 2001	419
56/241.	Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects	122 and 133	92nd	24 December 2001	420
56/242.	Pattern of conferences	124	92nd	24 December 2001	421
56/243.	Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations	125	92nd	24 December 2001	426
56/244.	United Nations common system: report of the International Civil Service Commission	127	92nd	24 December 2001	426
56/245.	Joint Inspection Unit	128	92nd	24 December 2001	431
56/246.	Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services	130	92nd	24 December 2001	432
56/247.	Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991	131	92nd	24 December 2001	433
56/248.	Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994	132	92nd	24 December 2001	435
56/249.	Financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor	136	92nd	24 December 2001	437
56/250.	Financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea	137	92nd	24 December 2001	438
56/251.	Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone	141	92nd	24 December 2001	440

Resolution No.	*Title*	*Item*	*Plenary meeting*	*Date of adoption*	*Page*
56/252.	Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo......	158	92nd	24 December 2001	441
56/253.	Questions relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003..	123	92nd	24 December 2001	443
56/254.	Programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003				
	A. Budget appropriations for the biennium 2002–2003..	123	92nd	24 December 2001	468
	B. Income estimates for the biennium 2002–2003....	123	92nd	24 December 2001	471
	C. Financing of appropriations for the year 2002......	123	92nd	24 December 2001	471
56/255.	Special subjects relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003............................	123	92nd	24 December 2001	471
56/256.	Unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the biennium 2002–2003	123	92nd	24 December 2001	474
56/257.	Working Capital Fund for the biennium 2002–2003...	123	92nd	24 December 2001	474

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